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THURSDAY MAY 24TH, 2018

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Report points to assaults rising at Parc Prison

A PRISON reform charity is claiming that overcrowding at Parc Prison is forcing prisoners to share cells, eating, sleeping and even using the toilet in spaces designed for one.

Ministry of Justice figures show that 1,700 prisoners were crammed into just 1,559 spaces at the prison in March.

Campaigners say that the unchecked rise of the prison population is responsible for the huge increase in assaults on staff and other inmates - a situation described last week as a "national emergency".

The Prison Service measures its own capacity in terms of 'Certified Normal Accommodation' – the number of prisoners it says it can accommodate in the "good, decent standard of accommodation that the service aspires to provide all prisoners".

However, with the majority of prisons overcrowded across England and Wales, they also have a separate measure called 'Operational Capacity'.

It is the maximum number of prisoners the Prison Service says each institution can safely handle while maintaining control and security.

In March, Parc's population stood at 96 per cent of this capacity.

The GEM understands that where prisoners are placed is at the discretion of the Ministry of Justice, not the individual prisons.

Prisons contain a number of one and two-person cells. In overcrowded prisons, more inmates will be put in cells than they were originally designed to hold.

Figures released last month showed that 942 assaults were recorded at Parc in 2017, over triple the number in 2012. Of those attacks, 260 were on staff.

There were also 1,576 cases of self-harm recorded in the prison last year. In 2012, there were just 550.

The director of the Prison Reform Trust, Peter Dawson, said: "Overcrowding isn't simply a case of being forced to share a confined space for up to 23 hours a day where you must eat, sleep and go to the toilet.

"It directly undermines all the basics of a decent prison system, including work, safety and rehabilitation."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

CHARITY WALK LED BY STROKE SURVIVOR OLLIE

THIS year's Step Out for Stroke walk in Bridgend took place on May 20 and was led by young stroke survivor, Ollie Shearan.

Ollie with his family and Carwyn Jones.

Ollie was three when he had a stroke.

After being airlifted to hospital, his parents were told he might not make it through the night, but now he is making remarkable progress and was excited to sound the horn at the start of the mile-long walk.

Nicola, Ollie's mother, said: "After the stroke, he was like a newborn baby again. But he began holding his head up on his own and steadily learned to eat and talk. It was really special when he was able to say 'Mam' again."

"He's a completely different child now, just like a normal seven-year-old cheeky little boy, running round having fun.

"This is our third Step Out. It helps us meet other people in a similar situation. Although Ollie is normally the youngest, it's nice for people to come together and feel like a family."

Ollie was joined at the start line by outgoing First Minister and Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones, who said: "I've come for a few years now and it's great to see so many people here.

"As one who's had stroke in the family – my father had a stroke, although he's fine now, and two members of the family died from strokes – I'm really happy to support this today as it's so important."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

Police target 'county lines' drug cases

AN operation targeting county lines and the supply of drugs in Bridgend town centre has led to 10 arrests.

The people were arrested on Saturday evening, May 12, on suspicion of drug offences including possession of cocaine and supplying Class A drugs.

Six of those have been charged and the remaining four who were arrested have been released under investigation.

This was part of Operation Pacific, which has been running since April, and was set up to tackle the recent concerns regarding county lines and the use and supply of drugs in the area.

County Lines is a national problem where gangs from urban cities move to quieter towns and establish a market to deal their drugs.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

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Pyle and Porthcawl Photographic Society holds annual competition

Bewick's Swan Bathing *by Geoff-Baker.*

Cafe Bar *by Richard Craze.*

THE Pyle and Porthcawl Photographic Society recently held its annual club competition Three, which is split into two sections: Prints and Digital Images, with a trophy for each.

Members were allowed two entries into each section.

Les Loosemore from Bridgend judged both competitions, and not only awarded the points, but also provided an excellent critique on each image.

Richard Craze was presented with the Print trophy.

The winner of the Print Trophy was Richard Craze with 'Cafe Bar'.

The winner of the Digital Trophy was Geoff Baker with 'Bewick's Swan Bathing'.

Congratulations to both Richard and Geoff for winning the competitions and a big thank you to all participants for making it such an interesting and entertaining evening.

We welcome new members of all ages and skill levels, so if you have an interest in photography why not come along and join us on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at St Clare's School, Newton.

Our programme is available at www.pyle-porthcawl-ps.co.uk.

Geoff Baker

Les Loosemore (left) presenting Geoff Baker with the Digital Image trophy.

Spring ball raises funds in memory of Karen

A FUNDRAISING Spring ball, full of glamour and sparkle, was held at Tondu Cricket Club on April 14 in memory of a glamorous young mother, Karen Brown, who died after fighting cancer for some time.

The ball was organised by Karen's special friend Sian Phillips of Broadlands who worked tirelessly to make it a successful evening. Some 245 friends and family attended this special event which they called 'Brownie's Bash'.

The sum of £8,700 was raised to support Velindre Cancer Care and Y Bwthyn Newydd at the Princess of Wales Hospital and the cheque was presented by Sian and Karen's family to staff nurses Paulette Cridland and June Williams and health care assistant Ruth Parry last Saturday.

To date, Sian has raised approximately £16,000 for Velindre Cancer Care, a great achievement.

Special thanks go to everybody who attended the ball, all those generous people who donated so many fabulous raffle prizes, including: Kevin Ellis for his three signed shirts that raised £2,820, Neil Boobyer for the Ryan Giggs signed picture, Owen Watkin for his Welsh and Osprey kits, Bridgend Lions Club for its £1,000 donation; and last, but by no means least, Sian's hairdresser on the day of the ball, the young lad who was so kind to donate his morning tips. Her thanks go to Regan Lewis of Navidi Hair Co, Broadlands.

CT

A new team at Y Bont

THE Bridgend charity Y Bont has recruited a new chief, Ann Sherwood.

Ann has worked at a senior level for over 30 years helping small businesses and charities develop and grow, most recently for the past 10 years as head of income generation for a Welsh charity supporting survivors of domestic abuse.

Ann said: "I am very excited to be joining the Y Bont team in its 21st year. I have been overwhelmed by the passion, commitment and love I have witnessed in my first few months.

"The staff and children are a true inspiration and I look forward to leading them in the coming years, working together to overcome the hurdles we face in these challenging times."

Joining Ann at Y Bont as the lead for fundraising and marketing is local girl Paisley Thompson-Bailey.

Paisley is a marketing graduate with experience in retail and fundraising. She has lots of exciting fundraising things planned for this year, including 'Host your Y Bont Afternoon Tea' – during June, and a glitzy celebratory 21st Birthday Ball, on September 14 at The Coed-y-Mwstwr Hotel, Bridgend.

Paisley said: "It's such an exciting opportunity to be part of such an amazing, worthy charity. I'm privileged to be able to combine my passion for marketing along with my love of helping others in this wonderful environment."

Paisley Thompson Bailey and Ann Sherwood.

Y Bont celebrates its 21st year in 2018. The charity relies solely on donations and fundraising to survive.

Paisley added: "Already well supported, we still are interested in hearing from any individuals, businesses, schools or colleges who are able to donate some time, money or prizes that could be used to raise funds."

If you feel you can help, contact Y Bont via social media on Facebook @YBont.Bridgend; twitter @YBont; Instagram YBontBridgend1997 or via e mail on fundraising@ybont.com or Tel: 01656 646013.

BRIDGEND BUSINESS AWARDS ARE OPEN FOR NOMINATIONS

THE Bridgend Business Forum Awards 2018 have launched.

Organised by Bridgend Business Forum and supported by Bridgend County Borough Council, the awards celebrate excellence among local businesses and provides a fantastic opportunity to showcase their business, and celebrate their achievements.

Now in its sixth year, the awards feature a brand new category; the 'professional services business of the year award', which recognises the outstanding work of accountants, financial, and legal companies.

Entries are now open for the following nine categories:

Start-up business of the year – sponsored by ISA Training.

Manufacturing business of the year – sponsored by EEF, the manufacturer's organisation.

Service business of the year – sponsored by Harris Bassett.

Bridgend tourism business of the year – sponsored by Berry Smith Lawyers.

Entrepreneur of the year – sponsored by SME Finance Partners.

Business student of the year – sponsored by Graham Paul Chartered Accountants.

Creative industries award – sponsored by Handelsbanken.

Innovative business of the year – sponsored by Development Bank of Wales.

Professional services business of the year – sponsored by Aevitas.

Sponsored by main sponsor, Rockwool UK Ltd, the winner of each category will have the chance to win the overall 'Bridgend Business of the Year' award.

Full details of the awards including application forms and advice and tips on how to submit an entry, can be found at www.bridgendbusinessforum.co.uk. Entries close at 5pm on Friday, July 6.

Residents' parking consultation tabled by borough council

A NEW consultation is to take place on the introduction of resident permit parking in Bridgend.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has been looking at introducing the scheme since 2014.

It carried out a consultation exercise with residents in 2015 but was unable to implement its plans due to legal issues relating to on-street traffic orders.

The corporate director for communities Mark Shepherd told councillors at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday, May 15, the issues had now been solved but due to the amount of time since the first consultation, another consultation was now necessary.

In 2014, cabinet members approved the permit tariff charge of £20 which would cover the annual administration costs.

A consultation exercise in Porthcawl, which was carried out at the same time as the one in Bridgend, met with insufficient support from the majority of residents to progress the scheme to a formal consultation.

There is currently funding of £128,000 within the council's medium term financial strategy programme to introduce the scheme.

LDR

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MAY 31)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
24 Thur	02.43	8.3	15.25	8.4
25 Fri	03.54	8.5	16.31	8.7
26 Sat	04.55	8.8	17.25	8.9
27 Sun	05.42	9.1	18.11	9.2
28 Mon	06.31	9.3	18.53	9.4
29 Tues	07.12	9.6	19.32	9.7
30 Wed	07.51	9.6	20.07	9.5
31 Thur	08.24	9.4	20.41	9.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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YOUTH THEATRE JUNIORS ARE 'LEGALLY BLONDE'

FOLLOWING the success of *Annie* by Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT), the junior members return to perform *Legally Blonde JR*.

Based on the award-winning Broadway musical and the popular film, *Legally Blonde The Musical JR* is, enthused a spokesperson, "...a fabulously fun journey of self-empowerment and expanding horizons".

The show's songs are filled with humour, wit and sass, leaving cast members and audiences alike 'seeing pink'.

Legally Blonde JR follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, intellectual snobbery and scandal in pursuit of her dreams.

When Elle's high school boyfriend, Warner, dumps her and heads to Harvard, claiming she's not "serious" enough, Elle takes matters into her own hands, crafting a showy song-and-dance personal essay and charming her way into law school.

Befriending classmate Emmett and 'spunky' hairdresser, Paulette, along the way, Elle finds that books and looks are not mutually exclusive.

As she begins outsmarting her peers, she realises that law may be her natural calling after all.

Legally Blonde JR features large, energetic dance numbers with an 'expandable' cast of sorority sisters, law school students, hairdressers, and more.

Roger Burnell, the artistic director of BYT had this to say about the upcoming production: "The cast have, yet again, been fully committed to the adventure. Their maturity and determination in rehearsals has been outstanding."

Shelley Rees, director of *Legally Blonde JR*, described the creative process as an "absolute joy" and went on to say: "Our members have been extraordinary and have worked harder than ever to ensure the success of this years production.

"We would like to give a massive thank you to the parents of our members who give their endless support to the youth theatre."

Now in its 19th year, BYT is an established BAFTA award-winning theatre company run in partnership with It's My Shout Productions Ltd.

BYT is an exciting youth drama organisation that offer many experiences in theatre, film and television. Many BYT graduates now work in the industry on a regular basis.

Legally Blonde Jr will be performed on June 1 – 2 at the Grand Pavilion Porthcawl. **GP**

Three bus services get 12-month reprieve after council cutbacks

A NUMBER of bus services across Bridgend county are under threat after the local authority pulled its funding for them.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), which subsidises a range of bus routes, will save £136,000 as a result.

Councillors who voted through the cuts at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday May 15 gave three routes a one-year reprieve, saying they had 'listened' to people during a public consultation held between January and March 2018.

It means the number 51 Bridgend to Oaklands Road and number 803 Danygraig to Porthcawl services, both operated by Easyway, will continue to receive council subsidies for the next 12 months, as will the number 61 bus from Nottage to Porthcawl run by Peyton Travel.

These routes, which are fully-funded by the council due to not being commercially viable provide access to Bridgend Library, and South Road Surgery and Portway Surgery in Porthcawl.

Funding for two other bus routes which had been fully subsidised by the council will be withdrawn.

One of those is the number 52 Easyway service from Bridgend to Broadlands which operates during the day from Monday to Saturday.

Broadlands residents will now need to travel on the alternative bus services which run along Park Street.

The second service to have its funding withdrawn is the number 73 Pyle to Fforddygyfraith which runs on Tuesdays and Fridays only, and provides access to Princess of Wales Hospital.

The council is also withdrawing the subsidies it pays towards the running of four other partly-funded bus routes.

It is not yet known what actions the commercial operators will take over the affected routes.

The routes which will be affected are the number 81 – Bridgend to Pen-y-Fai via Brackla and Coity (Easyway), number 68/69 – Bridgend to Cefn Glas (First Cymru), number 63B – Bridgend to Porthcawl (First Cymru), and number 62 – Bridgend to Pencoed (First Cymru).

In total, 974 people responded to the public consultation on bus cuts with 89 per cent saying the subsidised routes should continue.

The cabinet member for communities, Cllr Richard Young, said the funding for the three saved services would be for one year, which would enable the council to discuss the way forward with bus operators and community transport groups.

He said: "We are not yet in the position of some local authorities who have already discontinued their bus subsidies."

He added: "With the far reaching considerations of the City Deal, we cant say how public transport will be funded or will develop in the future.

"What we can do at the moment is salvage what exists, and what we can, and urge the bus companies to work with us, to maintain these services."

The cabinet member for regeneration, Cllr Charles Smith, said: "This isn't a pleasant task, we don't want to cut anything if we can."

He said the decision to save three of the services this year was "just a case of buying time", adding "nobody can predict what the knock-on effects are going to be of continuing austerity cuts in the long-term".

Wales has had devolved powers since 1999.

Officers had recommended subsidies be removed from all the above services saving the council £188,000.

The extra £52,000 planned savings will now have to be found from elsewhere; it is likely to come from the funding set aside from the additional increase in council tax. **LDR**

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Leader and cabinet confirmed at annual meeting of BCBC

COUNCILLOR Huw David has been re-elected as the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

Cllr David, who is also the ward member for Cefn Cribwr, was returned unopposed as the Leader at the annual meeting of Council on May 16.

Cllr John McCarthy was selected to act as Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, succeeding Cllr Pam Davies, while Cllr Stuart Baldwin will act as Deputy Mayor.

The Cabinet portfolio positions were also agreed for the year ahead: Deputy Leader – Cllr Hywel Williams; Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help – Cllr Phil White; Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration – Cllr Charles Smith; Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Future Generations – Cllr Dhanisha Patel; Cabinet Member for Communities – Cllr Richard Young.

Groups and group leaders were confirmed as follows: Labour (26) – Cllr Huw David; Independence Alliance (11) – Cllr Norah Clarke; Conservative (8) – Cllr Tom Giffard; Plaid Cymru (3) –Cllr Malcolm James; Llynfi Independents (3) – Cllr Ross Penhale-Thomas.

Three councillors – Ken Watts, Jeff Tildesley and Julia Williams – opted not to join any groups.

Addressing the meeting, Cllr David said: "Serving in any capacity as an elected member is not an easy role, and as we all know, the last few years have been among the most difficult if not the most difficult that the council has ever had to face.

"But whatever challenges have arisen, we have faced each and every one of them, and we continue to do so with resolve and a united purpose across the chamber, to support our local communities to the very best of our ability.

"Never ending national austerity [Wales has had devolved powers since 1999] marches on, and we will continue to work with our superb staff to strive to deliver essential services against a backdrop of ever diminishing resources.

"With over £30 million to save over the next four years, many of the decisions that we have to make will be unpopular, but they will be made with a firm focus upon the reality of our changing environment, and on protecting our most essential services and our most vulnerable citizens."

For more details about the elected members visit the 'Democracy and Elections' pages at www.bridgend.gov.uk. **CM**

THANKS FROM THE PORTHCAWL LIONS

PORTHCAWL Lions would wish to thank all those who continue to support their car boot sale on Sunday mornings at Porthcawl Rugby ground.

"We appear to be going from strength to strength," said Lion Jim Marshall, one of the organisers. The car boot opens at 8am and goes on until 1pm. A pitch costs £6 and Porthcawl Rugby Club have opened their club house for refreshments and toilet facilities. All proceeds go to charity.

The Porthcawl Lions charity golf event at the Grove Golf Club on Friday, June 1 now has only a few vacancies for teams to enter.

This well supported event which has raised over £20,000 in its 10-year history is keeping the entrance fee at £140 for male, female and mixed teams of four.

The fee includes coffee on arrival and an 18-hole stableford competition with a buffet meal to end the day. Quality prizes for the winning teams, plus nearest the pin and longest drive lends itself to a really good day out at a challenging golf course.

The charities this year are Porthcawl Stroke Club, Prostate Cymru, Porthcawl Museum and the Sandville Self Help Centre. Further details available from Lion Brian on 01656 786728.

Latest news re the Lions' attempt to break the world record for the longest string of spectacles still awaits ratification from the dark, liquid people in Ireland. Porthcawl Lions are very, very confident that they, together with their Lion colleagues from other local clubs, have broken the world record.

An official announcement will be made in due course. **DR**

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SHORTLISTED PROPERTY TEAM OF THE YEAR

Council looks at changes in car parking charges...

HOURLY rates in car parks across Bridgend could increase under new plans being put forward by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

The council, which is proposing a raft of changes as part of a major car parking review, wants to charge more for the first hour in some areas while bringing down the cost, or keeping it the same, for long-stay parking.

It says the increase to the short stay tariff will "simplify" the parking tariffs for users while a reduction in the long stay tariff will help encourage visitors to stay longer.

The plans, which will first go out to public consultation, also include restricted parking times along Porthcawl seafront and new charges for Rest Bay Car Park.

The local authority says the new charges could bring in an extra £50,000, which it plans to use to reduce the deficit on the car parking budget and make general repairs to existing car parks.

For the 2017/18 financial year, parking services cost the local authority £247,000 more than it made through providing the service.

The corporate director for communities, Mark Shephard, told councillors at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday May 15 that the council was subsidising parking services "quite considerably".

The proposals are as follows:

1. The tariffs in all short stay car parks in Porthcawl and Bridgend (The Rhiw, Brackla 3 and John Street) be increased from 30p to 50p for half an hour and from 70p to £1 for an hour.

For two hours, the tariff would remain the same at £1.50 while for three hours, the tariff would reduce by 50p to £2 and for four hours, it would reduce by £1.50 to £2.50. For four hours and over, the tariff would remain at £6.

2. The tariffs in all long stay car parks (except Rest Bay and Brackla 1) in Porthcawl and Bridgend (Tondu Road, Tremains Road, Bowls Hall, Leisure Pool and Hillsborough Place) be increased by 30p to £1 for the first hour. Tariffs for between one and three hours would remain the same at £1.50 and tariffs for over three hours would also remain the same at £3.

3. To standardise the time periods for all long stay car parks (Brackla 1 is currently different to all other long stay car parks) with Brackla 1 then following the times and new tariffs of other long stay car parks. This will mean an increase in the first hour but reduced tariffs for between two and three hours of £1.

4. Change summertime charging times at Rest Bay Car Park. Currently people either pay £1 for one hour or £2.80 all day. While the first hour will continue to be one hour, there will be a new two-hour charge of £2, a three hour charge of £3 and an all-day charge of £4.

There would be no change to the tariff in the winter months which run from October to March with charges remaining at £1 per day.

5. Convert all the Bowls Car Park and Tremains Car Park parking spaces to long stay spaces. Officers say the short stay spaces currently there are underused.

6. Introduce limited waiting along Porthcawl seafront between the Eastern Promenade, the Esplanade and West Drive to its junction with Mallard Way.

The scheme would operate 365 days a year between the hours of 8am to 6pm. The maximum permitted length of stay would be two hours with a proviso that no overnight parking by camper vans be permitted.

Council leader Huw David said: "It's important to stress these are proposals and there will be a consultation so no decisions have been made.

"We will listen to what people have to say as part of the consultation process and we encourage members of the public to take part in that process."

Cabinet member for communities Richard Young said: "I particularly welcome the parking restrictions around the promenade in Porthcawl which will benefit the traders in Porthcawl itself because it will stop a lot of parking in that area where people simply park, go to work and leave the car there all day.

"Hopefully we will have a steady stream of people waiting to park once there is a vacancy and then going into the town to do their business."

The car parking review comes after one in 2014 was deferred due to factors including the Rhiw development, Ravens Court staff moves and the closure of the Sunnyside office building.

Mr Shephard said the current tariffs for the council's car parks had not been changed since 2007.

The council is responsible for 28 off-street car parks of which 10 are run as pay and display car parks.

Three of the pay and display are short stay, five are long stay and two are both short and long stay.

The remaining car parks do not charge for parking due to either covenants or the nature of the car park within the community.

LDR

...and at the issue of car park ownership

RESPONSIBILITY for a number of free car parks in Bridgend could be transferred from the county council to town and community councils.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) says there is the potential to pass all 18 non-chargeable car parks which it looks after onto the smaller councils by using Community Asset Transfers.

In a report which went before councillors on Tuesday May 15, officers state: "BCBC repair, clean and fill potholes for all 18 non-chargeable car parks within the county borough to fulfil its statutory health and safety responsibilities.

"Other than these responsibilities, there are minimal annual outgoings.

"BCBC do not pay rates on the car parks as they are classed as open ground.

"Pencoed car park has CCTV so there are outgoings for electricity and phone line rental only."

Cabinet members voted in favour of an officer exploring the possibility of asset transfers during the meeting.

In total, the council is responsible for 28 off-street car parks of which ten are run as pay and display car parks.

LDR

CANTORION COETY'S SPECIAL GUESTS

CANTORION Coety will hold their annual concert again this year at Tabernacl Chapel, Derwen Road, Bridgend, at 7pm on Friday, June 8.

Tickets will be available from any choir member, also at the door from 6.30pm on the evening of the performance.

This year, the choir has invited tenor soloist Tomi Turner to add wonderful variation to the programme. Tomi Turner has gained a considerable reputation as a concert performer both locally, and in concerts throughout Wales.

Cantorion Coety are equally delighted to report that Llangewydd School Junior Choir, Bridgend will be joining them at Tabernacl. It is always a joy to hear children singing; there is much anticipation from the choir in sharing the evening's programme with these young, delightful, voices.

The musical arrangements for Cantorion Coety will be in the safe hands of their well-established music team, Eira Paskin as the musical director and Gareth Waite as the accompanist.

Dr John Elfed Jones, Cantorion Coety's president, will be the compere for the evening, the performance starts at 7pm.

A warm welcome awaits all who wish to attend and support the event.

ARJ

An 'innovative' pop-up business school is coming to Bridgend next month

A POP-up business school that gives people advice on starting their own business without funding or money is visiting Bridgend for the first time in June.

Held at the Bridgend Life Centre from Monday, June 18, to Friday, June 29, Pop-Up Business School is open to anyone wanting to start their own business and is being run in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and Valleys to Coast Housing Association.

Simon Paine. the company's co-founder, said: "The school gives people the tools to change their own world. Our approach is not traditional.

"We don't bother with business plans. We don't believe in loans and grants. We know that puts more people off starting than it helps.

"Thirty per cent of the people that come on our course start their business before the end of the workshop and 27 per cent make their first sale. Anyone in Bridgend can book a place on the course and will take home with them practical advice, training and a clear way forward."

Cllr Charles Smith, BCBC's cabinet member for regeneration and education, said: "The company provides an innovative and fresh approach to learning key skills to help people who are starting and growing their businesses.

"A number of councils are supporting this new approach which will help complement the great work that is already being carried out by local providers in helping businesses get off the ground."

The training schedule includes a mix of practical sessions, one-to-one coaching, workshop sessions and peer support. Topics include starting a business without investment, sales and marketing, building a free website and finding customers.

For more information, visit www.popupbusinessschool.co.uk/events. **FI**

WI ladies enjoy Carmarthen trip

ON May 14 Mynydd Cynffig WI went on a trip to Carmarthen, and what a great day they all had.

The weather was glorious, not a cloud in the sky. They all shopped 'til they dropped, lunch topped off the morning and everyone agreed the trip thus far had been a great success.

On they went to the National Botanic Garden of Wales. The gardens were amazing, set in such lovely surroundings. A little buggy took the less mobile of the ladies to the top of the gardens so they could all enjoy them.

There was a shop for a reminder of the visit, several cafes to stop at and refresh themselves and the afternoon went by in a flash.

They all decided a return trip would be on the cards. The trip was part funded by the lottery grant, which had helped to arrange the trip and there will be many more trips in the future with help from this grant. All the ladies arrived back home tired, but having enjoyed a great day out.

CC

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Ruby's Myeloma fundraising is not just for her mother...

RUBY Owen, 11, of Cowbridge, is fundraising on behalf of Myeloma UK, and in particular for the forthcoming Myeloma Awareness Week, June 21-27.

Ruby's mother Marianne Williams is a myeloma patient. Myeloma, also known as multiple myeloma, is a blood cancer arising from plasma cells, which is treatable but not yet curable.

Inspired by her mother's story, Ruby began fundraising for Myeloma Awareness Week.

On June 26 – the day before her 12th birthday – Ruby will be having seven inches of her hair cut at Elements Hair Salon in Ogmore-by-Sea.

The hair will then be donated to The Little Princess Trust, and used to make wigs for children who have lost their hair through cancer treatment or other illnesses.

Ruby, who, like her mother before her, attends Cowbridge Comprehensive School, has the double aim of raising awareness and funds, and the money collected will be donated to Myeloma UK to help find a cure for this disease.

In spreading the word about myeloma, it will also help with early diagnosis.

A spokesperson said: "Ruby's initial target was £200, but so far she has raised an incredible £2,447 and is now hoping to raise £3,000."

Readers wishing to learn more about Ruby's fundraising, or to make a donation, can visit her Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rubyshaircutdonation; or twitter.com/MyelomaUK/status/996704328030277632.

For more information on the condition, visit www.myeloma.org.uk.

GS

Ruby Owen has smashed her original fundraising target, but wants to go further still.

Pyle charity needs trustees

KPC YOUTH & Community is a charity based in Pyle, Bridgend, working to support young people, the family and the wider community, through offering advice, information, activities, support, as well as training to improve skills towards employability.

In addition, the centre offers a range of activities to support well-being in the community.

Do you have an interest in children, young people and the community? Do you want to help change things for the better?

We are looking for new candidates to help run an influential long-standing small, local charity. We are seeking trustees with energy, passion and commitment who can help our board to negotiate the current challenging financial situation for all charities, while maintaining a focus to innovate and develop.

We welcome people from all backgrounds, particularly with skills and diverse experiences in human resources, business, finance, volunteering and marketing. The role is unpaid, but reasonable expenses will be paid.

For an informal discussion, email Paula Lunnon (chair of the board of directors) on chair@kpcyouth.com to discuss convenient times to have a chat, or email kpcyouth@hotmail.com for an application form. Please note that we only accept CVs with our completed application form.

Off Pyle Inn Way, Pyle, Bridgend, CF33 6AB;
Email: kpcyouth@hotmail.com
www.kpcyouth.com;
01656 749219/745399.

KPC

Council 'may end parking concession to contractors'

ANY contractors requiring a permit to park their vehicle on a street in Bridgend town centre while planned works are being carried out to a building may soon have to pay for it.

The permits, called dispensation notices, give permission to park at premises which are next to parking restrictions, in restricted zones or in residential parking zones.

In some circumstances, permission may be granted to wait on yellow lines, loading bays or in pedestrian zones.

The permits are currently granted free of charge but Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is looking at introducing a charge of £10 per day.

Council officers say the current system is "extremely time consuming" with vehicles having to be entered manually on machines rather than a visual check being carried out.

They say the charge would pay for the "extra works" associated with issuing the permit.

In a report which went before the council's cabinet committee on Tuesday May 15, officers say the charge also "may encourage" contractors to use car parks "wherever possible" as it would be a cheaper daily rate and free up space on the kerbside.

Councillors approved a recommendation by officers which will now see the council explore the idea further and introduce it, if appropriate.

LDR

KPC Youth and Community seeking golfers

KPC YOUTH & Community are holding their 20th annual Charity Golf Day on Friday, June 22 at the Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl.

Team entry for teams of four is £160 per team (or take advantage of our Early Bird offer of just £140 if paid by end of April 2018). Entry includes coffee on arrival, golf fees and a buffet meal following the round of golf, and entry into our Golf Prize competition. Please come along for a great day's golf and the chance to support a local charity.

We now have just a few slots available and it would be great to have a full day of team entries along.

Sponsorship is also sought for raffle/auction prizes or £50 to sponsor a hole – if you can support us, that would be really appreciated.

For team entry forms or more details, contact: Alison on 01656 749219 kpcyouth@hotmail.com

Alison Mawby

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Poppy concert wants acts

MY NAME is Paul Gates and I am the Poppy Appeal organiser for Bridgend on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

We are planning to hold a concert on the evening of the October 26 in the Sony Theatre of Bridgend College.

We are seeking singers, choirs and bands that would be willing to give up their time – free – to raise money for this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

If you would like to become involved, please contact me at bridgendpoppyappeal@gmail.com.

Paul Gates,
Poppy Appeal Organiser for Bridgend

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90 Day Notice	£5,000	£1	1.10%
Cash ISA	£1	£1	1.10%
Cash JISA	£1	£1	2.00%
Young Saver	£1	£1	2.00%
First Adult Saver (Only available to customers aged 16 to 30 years old)	£1	£1	1.25%

(Please note the Select Premier account no longer exists and all existing accounts have been transferred to the Personal Premier account)

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Former Brynteg pupil turned MP pays visit

A FORMER pupil of Bridgend's Brynteg Comprehensive, who went on to serve as Secretary of State in the UK Government, made a return to south Wales recently.

Maria Miller MP, who served as David Cameron's Culture, Media, and Sport Secretary, met with local schoolgirls at the Welsh Assembly to talk about how women can become leaders in public life.

She also met women from across Wales to discuss improved representation and visibility at all levels of politics.

The MP, who now chairs Parliament's Women and Equalities Committee, made the trip following an invitation from Suzy Davies AM.

Ms Miller started her day in South Wales by meeting with Women 2 Win Wales, an organisation set up to encourage more women to take an interest in standing for the Welsh Conservatives and also taking a role in public life.

Suzy Davies, Welsh Conservative Regional AM for South Wales West, chairs the newly formed organisation.

"It is so important to show women of all ages that they have a role to play in public life. We need a variety of experience and knowledge for our parliaments to reflect the Welsh population and its priorities, and that clearly includes women from all backgrounds and all parts of Wales.

"Having Maria Miller share her experience of how and why she first got involved in politics – and what drives her on still – reinforced that point that where you're from doesn't have to stop you rising right to the top of British politics. In fact, it can be the very reason that inspires you to reach for that."

"I was really lucky to go to Brynteg Comprehensive," said Ms Miller.

"It was there that I got the confidence to go to the London School of Economics and to take an interest in politics. It was at that time that Margaret Thatcher became Prime Minister and she showed me that there were no barriers."

Mrs Miller, has been chair of the Women and Equalities Committee since 2015, added: "Having a wide breadth of representatives is needed. Having that balance of opinions and views in any organisation or parliament is essential to good decision-making."

Following her meeting with Women 2 Win, Suzy Davies also hosted Ms Miller in a visit to the National Assembly. Together with Chief Executive Manon Antoniazzi, she met members of Reclaim, an organisation which works with year seven to nine girls from disadvantaged backgrounds to help them understand their stake in society and to help them to become active participants in their communities – at all levels, including as elected representatives.

The Rt Hon Maria Miller MP, Suzy Davies AM, Manon Antoniazzi, and students from Reclaim

Thanks for the Memory Lane Cafe

A chance for a brew, a chat, to meet friends, and to receive support and information.

THE Mayor's recent visit to Memory Lane Cafe brought a smile to everyone's faces.

Memory Lane Cafe is for anyone affected by dementia. It's from 9.30am till noon at Pyle Life Centre and everything is free.

Phil and I provide the tea and biscuits, Tracy and Nancy organise craft sessions and Richard comes every week to help out. We have lots of professional people calling into the café and so there is always someone available to give help and advice to carers.

The local PCSOs, Rev Dr Duncan Walker from St James' Church in Pyle, Claire from Care & Repair, and people working in dementia care all call into the café. Suzy Davies AM, Cllr Mike Kearn and Bridgend's Mayor have all visited.

Memory Lane Cafe is part of the Villages Project, which aims to make the villages of Cefn Cribwr, Kenfig Hill, Pyle, North and South Cornelly and Maudlam dementia-friendly.

I have visited most of the businesses in the villages promoting the project and the café. I also run Dementia Friends sessions once a month at Pyle Life Centre.

The sessions are free, open to all, and are an insight into dementia and ways we can help.

For more information, telephone 0779 1891578 or search on Facebook for "Memory Lane Cafe Pyle"

Louise Barham

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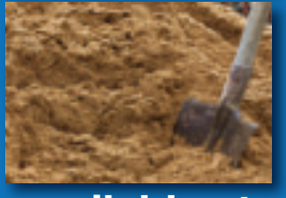

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Tracing the past

I HAVE been doing research into my ancestry and found out my maternal grandfather, John Thomas, was born in St Hilary; his parents were John Thomas and Ann Thomas.

I visited the churchyard this week and was so enthralled to find their graves and also enlightened with more information. I am eager to find out more.

By the way, a lovely church and a well kept graveyard.

Glenys O'Hagan, Pyle.

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V2C apologise for late start to grass cutting season

A HOUSING association in Bridgend has apologised after delays in securing a new grass cutting contract left areas untidy and with grass "too high for children to play on".

Valleys to Coast Housing (V2C) said it was six weeks behind with the grass cutting and "appreciated" that the areas were "looking untidy".

A statement on their website said due to the current length of the grass "a few cuts" would be necessary before the areas were "brought up to an acceptable level".

It added that the cut grass would not be collected because it was "very expensive" to do so and instead it would be blown off pathways.

Bridgend County Borough Councillor David White (Labour) said that grass was now over a foot-and-a-half high in some areas.

He said: "It's annoyed a lot of people that the grass cutting is this late – it's one of only a couple of green areas to play on in the area and kids haven't been able to play on it because it's been so high.

"The tenants have to pay a service charge and they feel the grass should have been cut – it's a poor effort by Valleys to Coast on this occasion."

The Newcastle ward councillor added: "I don't understand the delay in the contract because surely you would know the contract is ending and put a new one in place."

A spokesman for Valleys to Coast said: "We are sorry for the delay in cutting our grassed areas close to homes.

"To improve the grass cutting service we have secured a long-term contract with a number of companies for the next seven years which will stabilise charges for our customers and lessen the impact of future rising costs. This has taken longer than expected.

"We are pleased to confirm that our grass cutting service started on May 14 and the areas we are responsible for will receive their first cut in the next two weeks.

"We will carry out the same number of cuts we intended to achieve throughout the year but with a couple of cuts taking place sooner over the next few weeks to get our grassed areas looking as they should."

LDR

Have you lost antique coins or jewellery?

POLICE are looking to identify the owners of a number of items recovered during an investigation in Porthcawl.

Items include antique coins, a number of pin badges, a silver ring with a purple stone, earrings along with a green and silver brooch.

A police spokeswoman said: "We have reason to believe they might be stolen and would like to trace the owner or owners.

"If you think any of these items could belong to you, call us on 101 quoting reference 1800170860."

Volunteers needed for Macular group

A LEADING sight loss charity is calling for volunteers to help run two support groups for people with macular disease based in Maesteg and Ystradgynlais.

The Macular Society is appealing for anyone who would be willing to give up some of their time to help at the groups' monthly meetings, with support from the charity's services and volunteering team.

The groups are also looking for people to assist with general tasks such as booking guest speakers and helping with making tea and coffee.

As our population ages, increasing numbers of people are being affected by age-related macular degeneration (AMD), the most common type of macular disease. AMD is the leading cause of sight loss in the UK, currently affecting more than 600,000 people.

Adele Francis, Macular Society regional manager, said: "Our macular support groups provide a real lifeline for people living with sight loss. The peer support offered by the groups is absolutely vital – it's incredibly reassuring for people to know that there are others who truly understand their situation."

In Wales, the Macular Society has been able to establish and run new sight loss support groups and recruit volunteers across the country thanks to more than £340,000 of funding from the Big Lottery Fund.

The Maesteg Macular support group meets on the second Monday of each month from 10.30am-12.30pm, at the Heritage Suite, Maesteg Health and Wellbeing Centre, Hartshorn House, Neath Road, Maesteg (CF34 9EE). Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 11.

For more information about the Maesteg or Ystradynlais Macular Support Groups contact Adele Francis on 01639 843236 / 07494 468007, or email adele.francis@macularsociety.org

For more information on macular degeneration, call the Macular Society's Helpline on 0300 3030 111 or email help@macularsociety.org

The weekend simply flew by...

Cadets Pugh, Griffiths, and Davies.

THE weekend proved to be a busy time for cadets from 2117 (Kenfig Hill) Squadron RAF Air Cadets.

On a recent Friday four cadets went to MOD St Athan for Air Experience Flying. Cadet Corporal Jones J, and Cadets Davies, Russell, and Parisi were all able to take to the skies as the weather was perfect for flying. After the safety brief they each managed a flight and performed aerobatics or carried out training towards their next level of badges.

Flight Sergeant Peckham Royal Air Force Air Cadets,who accompanied the cadets, would like to thank staff from No. 1 Air Experience Flight for hosting them. Flt Sgt Peckham also took the photographs.

The next day saw Cadets Davies, Griffiths, and Pugh attend MOD St Athan for ground training and upon completion all three who had flown previously to complete the flying skills were awarded their blue badges and certificates.

Flying is offered to cadets subject to medical conditions free of charge as standard in the RAF Air Cadets and it is possible, with hard work and determination, for a cadet to fly solo before they can legally drive a car.

You can contact the Squadron Adjutant by email at adj.2117@aircadets.org to arrange a visit or call us on 01656 670125.

Lindsay Thomas
Secretary / MCO
CWC 2117 (Kenfig Hill) Squadron
Royal Air Force Air Cadets

Cadet Corporal Jones.

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FARMING MATTERS

European funding has been a lifeline for Welsh farmers

MAY has been a busy month for us here in Glamorgan and we have now finished helping our members fill in their SAF and hosted two very successful farm visits.

With this in mind I would like to thank our county chairman, Richard Walker and Rachel Edwards of Flaxland Farm for welcoming Keir Starmer, Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras and Shadow Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, and our members Gill and Charles Morgan and their son Richard of Gellifeddgaer farm for opening up the farm gates for Ogmore MP Chris Elmore.

These farm visits really help us with highlighting why the industry needs #FairFarmFunding and why the Barnett Formula would be bad news for agriculture in Wales.

Our rural communities currently receive around £350 million a year through the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, with some £260 million going to support farmers.

Rachel Saunders of the Farmers' Union of Wales writes on Farming Matters.

Each pound received by Welsh farms generates many more pounds for other businesses – mechanics, hauliers, contractors and so on – meaning the economic benefits of the CAP stretch far beyond the farmyard and are annually worth billions to Wales' economy.

With this in mind, it has been encouraging to hear that Michael Gove has acknowledged that post-2022 rural funding needs to be dealt with outside the Barnett Formula to avoid a drop of around 40 per cent in Wales' share of a budget.

But there is still no certainty about an actual budget for us here in Wales.

We don't have long until the budget has to be confirmed and it would be useful to know what we can realistically expect, so that we can plan the future of our rural businesses.

Yes, our Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs Lesley Griffiths confirmed that the Basic Payment Scheme will continue as planned for the 2018 and 2019 scheme years; however attempting to phase in a new system from 2020 could be damaging for businesses if it is overly ambitious and poorly investigated.

The bottom line is that protecting family farms and our rural communities must be central to any future policy.

Whatever the outcome of the Brexit negotiations, Welsh farmers will compete at some level with those in the rest of the EU operating under the next Common Agricultural Policy support system – proposals for which will shortly be published by the European Commission.

Wales needs to be mindful of this, and it's essential we do not adopt an inward-looking approach and hamstring Welsh producers operating in competition with our EU counterparts.

VALE MEETING ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE LITTERING ISSUES

CAMPAIGNERS and businesses have 'spoken out' about the 'heartbreaking' amount of litter strewn across Barry beach, and what they want done about it.

The beach hit headlines again over the recent Bank Holiday weekend as mounds of rubbish were left by visitors.

A meeting was held on May 17 for community groups, residents, traders and councillors to come up with ideas on how to keep the coastline tidy in the future.

A number of key points became apparent during the meeting.

Barry beach is not the only one suffering litter issues.

Rob Thomas, managing director at Vale Council which hosted the meeting at the Royal National Lifeboat Institution Visitors Centre on Barry Island, said the beach is not unique in having problems with litter.

"This is not a problem which is unique to Barry. Other beaches have faced the same issue. Barry does have an issue with it, but so do a lot of places."

Litter is 'the price of success of Barry beach'.

Mr Thomas said a lot of money has been invested in Barry beach in recent years, leading to growing visitor numbers.

He said: "We have a full events programme every year which brings people onto the Island. We have invested in the promenade and eastern prom in recent years. We're seeing huge numbers coming to the Island doing regular business.

"The price of success is the fact that we do have this problem to deal with."

The litter is 'heartbreaking'

Rob Curtis, from Friends of Barry Beaches, said no-one is blaming the council as they are "part of the answer" to the issue.

He said: "It's apathy. Even after all this education people are still leaving rubbish on the beach. It's heartbreaking."

Volunteers often give up part of their bank holidays to clean up after littering beach-goers, the meeting heard.

Aoife Blight, who runs Zero Waste Cardiff – a campaign to reduce waste in the Vale, said: "People don't realise they're littering half the time.

"This is not a unique thing to Barry. This is everywhere. We want to take back the narrative and change our town because we care. We want this to be a nice place for everyone – we all need to get involved."

Are 'city folk', not Barrians, to blame?

JOANNE CHEEK, from local group Beautiful Barry, said many residents of the town avoid the beach on sunny days.

"The majority of people are coming not from here," she said.

"If they come from the city they turn up and assume it's cleaned. We can't expect the people of Barry to clean the beach because of other people. Should chip cartons and plastic straws be banned?"

Mr Curtis said: "Chip cartons are one of the worst things. They can't even be recycled. It's absolutely appalling. Traders have a big role to play."

Mrs Blight said that 'incentives' should be used to stop people littering: one idea was to give free cups of coffee, presumably not in disposable cups, to litter. pickers

"We could encourage people to do it for 'positive' reasons," she said.

Other ideas from the meeting included having 'people' to greet other people coming onto the beach and handing out litter bags, issuing on-the-spot fines and using CCTV to identify offenders.

What can the council do?

SOME 144 litter bins are in use across Whitmore Bay, and the council can collect up to five tonnes of waste on busy days, when up to 30,000 people can visit the beach.

Cllr John Thomas, leader of Vale Council, said: "It's not a Barry issue, it's an issue in areas similar to Barry Island. It's about trying to educate the day visitors. It's not acceptable to leave the rubbish about. We need to make the facilities available to them to dispose of the rubbish in a proper way.

"There's no point putting 500 bins on the Island which for most of the year no one is going to use. It's not a money issue. It's a logistics issue.

"I just can't believe people would leave rubbish behind. I think it's all about education, then enforcement as a last resort."

LDR

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CANCER RESEARCH QUIZ

THE Penarth committee for Cancer Research UK is busy preparing for a fundraising quiz next month.

The quiz will be held at the Conservative Club in Penarth on Saturday, June 29. Doors will be open from 6.30pm to allow teams to settle in for a 7pm start.

Entry £5 per person to include a selection of nibbles on the tables. Teams of up to six people are invited to register by either telephoning 02920 531933 or e-mail crukpenarth@outlook.com. There will also be a raffle on the night.

We hope you can come along to join us for a fun evening, and help raise funds to research treatments and one day a cure for cancer. **CRUK**

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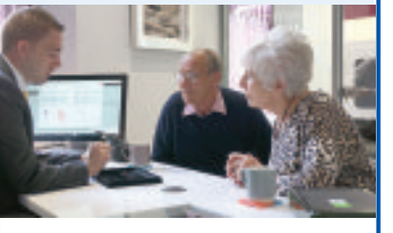

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Action group is formed to fight M4 to A48 link road

AN action group has been formed to fight the proposed link road from the M4 to the A48 after a number of families discovered that they could lose their homes, while others feel that the Ely Valley will be 'blighted'.

The group, named 'Vale Communities for Future Generations' (VCFFG) says that the proposal is 'economically flawed'.

At the moment, a consultation is running considering two routes for the road, one west of Pendoylan and one east.

VCFFG is unimpressed with either.

A VCFFG spokesman told The Vale: "Communities have been pitched into conflict with each other after being requested to choose between the two options – neither of which may even happen due to doubt over the scheme's value for money and impact on the community.

"The community is now in danger of becoming divided into bitter camps.

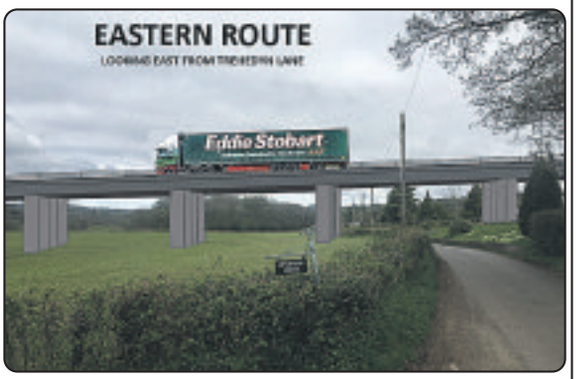
"Some residents see the proposed new road as a solution to increased levels of rush hour traffic through the village, whilst those who oppose the road believe impact on the environment and the adverse consequences for future generations will represent far too huge a price to pay for a disproportionately small economic gain.

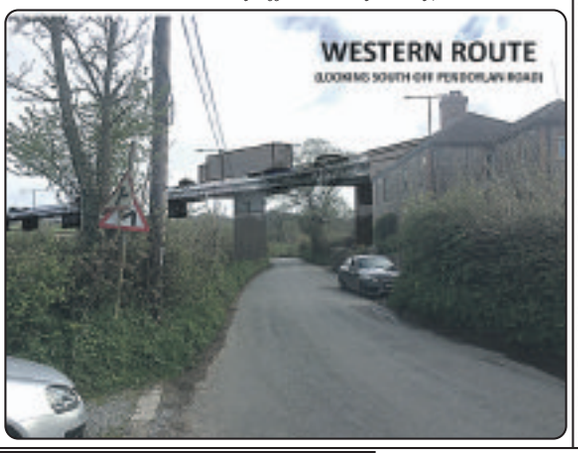
"The most alarming fact is that a large number of residents in the community remain unaware of the road scheme or the extensive scale of the proposed highway development, whilst others are pitched into conflict feeling reluctantly obliged to support either the eastern or western route options."

The group has used computer models to highlight the effect the proposed road may have,

VCFFG is keen to ensure that all locals and others throughout Wales is aware of the scale of the proposals and the likely cost to the tax payer, questioning whether the proposed new road would actually deliver value for money when considered against alternative solutions and whether the proposed scheme is the right initiative to take when considering the interests of future generations.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29





VCFFG computer models of how the new road may affect the Ely Valley,

Council's second consultation on Llancarfan School to run until July 9

THE Vale Council has decided to have a second public consultation concerning the future of Llancarfan Primary School.

The council recently announced plans to close Llancarfan Primary School – and relocate to a new site some four miles away in Rhoose.

A council spokesperson said that during the first consultation period, concerns had been raised, and the council had responded to them.

The second consultation seeks the views of governors, staff, parents and local residents on the educational merits of the proposal in light of this.

Cllr Bob Penrose, cabinet member for learning and culture, said: "In March, the council launched a consultation aimed at taking a holistic view of primary school provision in the western Vale. During this exercise members of the local community raised a number of important concerns regarding the impact to their local area, as well as some questions about the proposal.

"The Council is committed to ensuring that consultations are meaningful, relevant and appropriate proposals are clear, transparent and reflective of the views of those affected. This is something we take very seriously."

He said the feedback had been "incredibly valuable" and that a review had been completed.

He continued: "We are confident that many of the concerns raised, for example the future of the school building, can be addressed simply by providing a little more information and some reassurance to local communities.

"This is why a second consultation and an updated Community Impact Assessment with considerably more detail provided on some of the related issues has now been launched."

The second consultation will run until July 9. An updated consultation document will be provided to all parents, staff and governors. Responses can be submitted online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/westernvalereconfiguration, by email to *consultation@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or in writing*.

The Save Llancarfan School Action Committee have asked their supporters to respond to the new consutation, and to any new information in the consultation.

South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has welcomed the announcement that a further consultation will take place.

He urged as many people as possible to engage in the process, saying: "I welcome the fact that residents will have a further opportunity to have their say – and I strongly encourage them to join me in responding and working together to stand up for the community."

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Discover this season's must-haves at Samantha B

WELL it's official, I have seen more than one swallow, so it must be summer.

If like me, you're just turning your attention to your summer wardrobe you may discover that it's time for a refresh.

This season, we have a fantastic collection of linen from trusted labels such as Olsen, Bianca and Signature. Olsen never fails to deliver; beautiful summery florals teamed with a blouson jacket in Mediterranean blue – team this with a relaxed pair of trousers and you're transported to summer heaven.

Bianca is always femine with a twist; team coral with tropical print trousers and achieve a smart casual look that can take you anywhere.

Another great colour from Bianca is khaki – it always looks crisp and goes effortlessly with so many colours.

Signature has pulled out the stops this season too, giving us lovely day dresses in many fabrics. Our favourite is a linen mix in sunshine yellow, it lifts your mood as soon as you put it on.

If you prefer a more floaty look, H and O deliver really pretty print skirts, floaty tops and dresses in gorgeous colours – a great look.

Adini and Pomodoro have also provided us with some pretty floral dresses and skirts; team these with a summer lightweight jacket-u-gun, and *voila*.

If a pair of trousers and nice top is more your thing, team a Capri or Pomodoro tunic with the ever-popular pull-on trouser in gorgeous summer colours... get ready for the compliments.

If you're looking for a more casual look we have plenty of choice. A wonderful collection of mix and match separates. Team a pair of crops or trousers with an over blouse or simple t-shirt and off to the beach we go.

This weekend, we will have a mid season sale rail with some selected half price bargains.

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Out & About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA

Bridgend PACT meetings

LITCHARD, PENDRE & COITY PACT at Litchard Mission, Litchard on May 24 at 7pm.

BRACKLA PACT at Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way, Thursday, May 24 at 6.30pm.

PORTHCAWL WEST CENTRAL PACT at Trinity Church on Tuesday, June 7 at 7pm.

MORFA WILDMILL PACT at The Community Life Centre, The Precinct, Wildmill on Monday, June 18 at 5pm.

CEFN GLAS, LLANGEWYDD & BRYNHYFRYD PACT at Westward Community Centre on Monday, June 18 at 7pm.

NEWCASTLE PACT at Westward Community Centre on Monday, June 18 at 7pm.

Meet your local police officers

WHY not come along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon.

Cadoc 'Cuppa with a Copper' will be held at Victoria Park Community Centre every Monday morning between 10am and 11am.

Castleland Police Surgery will be held at Morrisons Supermarket on Wednesday, May 30 between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

Castleland officers will also hold a 'Cuppa with a Copper' at Atlantic Café, Wimborne Road Barry on Tuesday, June 5 between 12 noon and 2pm.

Meet Your Local Office at Penarth Library, Stanwell Road, Penarth on Thursday, May 31 at 10am.

Meet Your Local Officer at the Sycamore Tree Inn, Colwinston at 11am on Tuesday, June 6.

Llantwit Major Police Surgery is on Thursday, June 7 between 10.30am and 11.30am at Llantwit Major Library, Boverton Road Llantwit Major.

May fundraising for KPC

HOW about a spring clean for KPC? If you've any good quality clothes/shoes etc that you've no longer space for, please drop them into KPC – and we will sell on eBay to help raise funds for KPC (more space for you and you'd be helping a local good cause).

KPC is off Pyle Inn Way, Pyle, BRIDGEND CF33 6AB; contact us at kpcyouth@hotmail.com; www.kpcyouth.com or 01656 749219 or 745399. **AS**

Llantwit Horticulture

THE next meeting of the Llantwit Major Horticultural Society will be held on Wednesday, May 30 at 7.30pm when the subject will be 'Colourful Dahlias For Your Garden'.

New members and visitors always welcome.

Cowbridge Gardeners

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be on Thursday, May 31 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall.

The speaker will be Claire Jenkins of Bordervale Plants who will talk on 'Aroma Round the Garden'. New members and visitors welcome.

Coffee morning

WENDY'S Top to Toe exercise class are hosting a coffee morning in aid of Noah's Ark Childrens' Hospital at St David's Methodist Church, Winston Road, Barry, from Saturday, June 2 at 11am.

Enfys Craft Fair

ENFYS Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, June 2 at the St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm with free admission.

Crafters invite you to see their products: cushions, place mats, shopping bags, baby shoes, blankets and toys.

There will be jewellery for sale, turned wood bowls, boxes, pens and candle holders; gifts for children in pretty clay heart shapes, which can be personalised and glittered.

The charity for June is Cat Protection for Cardiff and the Vale; and in the kitchen, Ann is very busy serving sizzling bacon and egg baps, corned beef pie and cheese and potato pie, salad and hot and cold drinks.

As usual you will receive a very warm welcome at Enfys Craft Fair. For more information call Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784. **CB**

British Legion Centenary Service

THE Royal British Legion, Barry is delighted to present a unique and very special event to mark the centenary of the end of World War.

To be held at the Barry Memo Arts Centre, Gladstone Road on September 22 at 7pm, the event will feature The South Wales Police Band and Corps of Drums, Barry Male Voice Choir, St Cyres School Choir, University Royal Navy Unit HMS *Cambria*, RNR HMS *Cambria* and others, and will culminate in a beautiful Drumhead Service.

We have a few touching suprises, with real local interest, planned too.

We are calling on World War 2 veterans especially to take a special part in the evening. Please contact Teresa on 01446 751656 or 07776 111385 for more details.

Tickets £12 (£10 concessions, veterans of any age, RBL members and under-16s) are available from the Memo box office 01446 738622. Everyone is welcome, but tickets are going, so you need to be quick.

All profits from the event will go to the annual Poppy Appeal. AS

Barrivale Community Aid

AS one of Barry's oldest clubs, Barrivale Community Aid has some places available for new members.

The club meets every Thursday evening at Gwenog Court with entertainment from local artists. Contact 01446 739953 for further details.

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Bev 07912 172674

Mondays 5.30pm
Cadoxton Moors Community Centre, Rear of Edmond Place, Cardiff Road, Barry
Karl 07411 621866

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose
Helen 01446 750738/ 07968 355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm
Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry.
Sarah 07917 881220

Tuesdays 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
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Nicola 07951 510871

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry
Annamarie 07837 497523

Wednesday 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry
Martin 07827 445570

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend
Helen 07714 170908

Wednesday 9.30am
Trinity Church, Porthcawl
Bev 07912 172674

Wednesdays 6.00pm
5th Barry Sea Scout Hall, Everard Street, Barry.
Karl 07411 621866

Thursdays 8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm
Sarn & Bryncwlis Social Club, Bryncoch Road, Sarn
Scott 07498 780419

Thursdays 5.30pm
Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry
Annamarie 07837 497523

Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
The Bayside Room, Hi Tide, Porthcawl, CF36 5BT
Rachel 07779 956233

Thursdays 9.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill
Millie 07765 040006

Thursdays 9.30am and 11.30am
Memorial Hall, Cenotaph Entrance, Gladstone Road, Barry
Nicola 07951 510871

Thursdays 5.30pm
St. Davids Church Hall, Wimbourne Road, Pencoed
Donna 07790 797008

Thursdays 9.30am
Nolton Church Hall, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend
Donna 07790 797008

Friday 9.30am
Cornelly Community Centre, Heol Las CF33 4AS
Rachel 07779 956233

Saturdays 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am
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Any 9 windows	£4,941	£56.59	£5,841	£66.90
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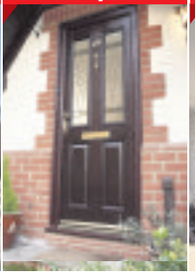

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DOG OF THE WEEK
'Luna is a loveable girl'

LUNA is a three-year-old husky cross collie.

She is full of energy and bright as a button, so she will need dedicated owners to do lots of mental and physical activities with her to keep her busy. She is good off lead and will play fetch for hours with her ball.

Luna will need continued socialising with other dogs. She is best suited to an adult only home with visiting children 14 years and over.

Luna is a fun and loveable girl and will show you lots of affection and would make the perfect companion.

For more information on Luna, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; or give us a call on 01656 725219. You can also visit our website at www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Luna with Lyndsey from the Bridgend Dogs Trust.

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by GARETH JAMIESON
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GIVEN that the present cinematic landscape is so populated with superheroes, it takes a special kind of character to truly break out – and in 2016, Deadpool was that character.

After the false start that was his appearance in *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*, his own film, with Ryan Reynolds as the titular hero, was a gigantic success – irreverent, smart, not afraid to poke fun at itself or the genre, it was a hilarious and refreshing delight.

But can this lightning be captured twice? We now find out as *Deadpool 2* hits cinema screens. Reynolds returns as Wade Wilson, the vigilante hero who is as indestructible as he is quick-witted. However, when the time-travelling Cable (Josh Brolin) comes back in time to kill a young boy (Julian Dennison) who has impacted the future, Deadpool and his hastily-assembled X-Force team (including the returning Brianna Hildebrand as Negasonic Teenage Warhead as well as new members like Zazie Beetz's Domino, Terry Crews' Bedlam and Rob Delaney's superpower-less Peter) must tackle Cable head on...

To say that the first Deadpool film was a cultural phenomenon is something of an understatement, the film taking a character who no-one seemed to believe in apart from the rabid fan base (and who had been handled so ineptly in the first *Wolverine* film) and turned him into a global icon.

Of course it helped that the film was so good, witty, irreverent and not afraid to break the fourth wall and poke fun at the *X-Men* franchise it loosely belongs to, among other things.

So, can *Deadpool 2* live up to the gigantic hype? The answer is an unequivocal yes. The sequel is a film that takes everything that was so good about the first film, ramps it up and adds stakes and emotion that make it a deeper and arguably more substantial effort.

That doesn't mean that the trademark Deadpool wit is downplayed – far from it, with everything from *Frozen* to the DC cinematic universe getting mocked – but it creates a little more depth to a character that could easily have just glided along on his humour.

The love Ryan Reynolds feels for this character is wholly apparent, and he delivers an outstanding turn. With the stakes raised the 'Merc with mouth' is put into an unusual position (cinematically at least) by having to deal with some emotional upheaval, and Reynolds, who can do the comedy routine effortlessly, really impresses in the darker moments.

This time around he's not alone, and while some characters land more than others (many of the returning faces aren't given too much screen time), the arrival of Cable and Domino is the film's ace card.

Josh Brolin may already have clicked his fingers and owned the superhero summer as the villainous Thanos in *Avengers: Infinity War* (something this film doesn't shy away from mentioning) but here he is a brooding, physically-imposing thorn in Deadpool's side. On a mission from the future to right a wrong, he's a man hard to stop, and Brolin plays him with a seething intensity, part-Terminator, part-John Wick, in a superb performance.

Equally, Zazie Beetz's turn as Domino is effortlessly cool; with her power being luck, the film takes great delight in playing this up, and the actress, so good in Donald Glover's *Atlanta*, makes the journey to the big screen with cool aplomb.

Add to that *Hunt For The Wilderpeople*'s Julian Dennison as a mutant with an important future and Stefan Kapicic's Colossus (the straight man to Deadpool), and the film has some really good performances.

David Leitch (*John Wick*, *Atomic Blonde*) takes the directing duties from Tim Miller, but there's no let up in terms of quality. The action sequences (Leitch's speciality) may have some slightly awry CGI at times but have a verve and intensity that is hugely impressive, and Leitch seems perfectly at home handling the lighter elements as well.

The film's main flaw is that sometimes the glibness becomes the dominating factor. It's always appealing to watch these actors wring laughs from no end of subject matter, but there are some moments that need to be played a little straighter, while the new characters, particularly Cable and Domino, don't get the depth and backstory that they should have.

That said, it'll be hard to find a more humorous and high-octane blockbuster this year; living up to the heights of the first film, *Deadpool 2* is an absolutely sublime piece of work.

VERDICT: As irreverently funny as you would expect, but with an added dose of heart, *Deadpool 2* is a fine sequel. The performances from Ryan Reynolds, Josh Brolin and Zazie Beetz are brilliant, David Leitch's direction hits the spot and the script increases stakes without reducing the laughs. *Essential viewing*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Deadpool (2016)*, *Guardians of the Galaxy* (2014).

Gardens open for good causes

OVER the last 90 years the National Garden Scheme has invited people across the UK to open their gardens to raise funds for charity – so far £50m has gone to good causes.

As we approach summer, gardens are opening and welcoming visitors.

Llanmaes gardens: Llanmaes is just a mile outside Llantwit Major.

Old Froglands is a historic farmhouse with streams and woodland areas linked by bridges. Ducks swim and chickens roam free. The vegetable plot is now productive. Plantings are varied with interesting foliage.

Church Cottage has a pretty little garden to view.

Mehefin is an enchanting garden with bursts of colour, and Westwinds is a surprise in store!

They are open May 27 from midday until 5pm. Adult: £5, children free;

Llantwit garden: This is a Japanese garden with a Zen gate, Torri gate and Japanese lanterns featuring a large collection of Japanese style trees, which include an English elm, oak, larch etc, a pagoda and three water features which include the great Amazon waterfall along with large Buddha's head and new pond.

It is open on May 27 from 11am until 5pm. Adults: £3.50, children free; 21 Monmouth Way, Boverton, Llantwit Major (CF61 2GT).

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Couple fears a £90,000 bill for wall

by TIM CHAPMAN
07891 690798 or email tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

A BARRY resident says the Vale Council wants him to repair a wall at the back of his garden – even though he claims he does not own it – and he thinks it could cost as much as £90,000.

Lloyd and Aisha Bailey and their young son live in Bastian Close, Cadoxton.

Behind their property is the face of an old quarry. Some 130 years ago, a retaining wall was constructed on it to support a house being built on Victoria Park Road.

Bastian Close was built – below it – in 1991.

In recent years the wall has started to crumble and fall into the gardens of Bastian Close.

The Vale Council wants Mr Bailey to undertake the work, but he has commissioned a report from a boundary specialist, David Gregson Limited, which states it is not his.

The couple say they have gone through much stress because of the dispute.

The author of the boundary report said: "In my opinion the retaining wall is owned by Kez House… the line of legal boundary is the external face of the wall abutting 14 Bastian Close.

"…the owner of 14 Bastian Close has no legal interest in the wall and, consequently, no responsibility for its maintenance and repair".

Mr Bailey believes it is a definitive verdict and has sent the report to the council.

Mr Bailey said: "In 2014, we came home one day to find a large section of the upper parapet wall had fallen and crushed the heras fencing below completely.

"It was six feet by four feet so it could have caused injury or even death if anyone was nearby.

"We promptly contacted the council for an update on the works progress, but heard nothing back for some time."

The council commissioned a boundary report from Ball & Co and sent the residents of Bastian Close a letter requesting payment towards the cost of their draft report and said work had to be done to make the wall safe.

In the latest twist on April 17 this year, the council wrote to Mr Bailey giving him 28 days under the Building Act 1984 to carry out works on the wall or there could be court action.

Mr Bailey says a specialist has advised him the work could cost around £90,000.

The GEM understands that Section 77 notices were issued to Kez House at one stage, but no work was undertaken. The owner said the wall did not belong to him and the Ball report backed up that view.

Local authorities can go to court under the Building Act 1984, Section 77, and if a structure is deemed dangerous can request an order for the owner to carry out the necessary work. If the work is not done, the authority might step in to do the work and recover costs from the owner.

Mr Bailey claims it is the responsibility of Building Control at the Vale Council to now make it safe.

A spokesman on behalf of Michael Isaac, who owns Kez House, said the Ball & Co report had made it clear the wall was owned by the owners of properties in Bastian Close.

He said: "In 2014 the Vale Council commissioned Ball & Co chartered surveyors to commission a report to determine the ownership of the retaining wall which lies at the rear of 14 Bastian Close and its neighbouring properties.

"The report concluded that the wall was owned by the owners of the properties in Bastian Close, including Mr Bailey."

The spokesman explained that Mr Bailey had contacted the Vale Council in 2017 with further information and the council had asked Ball & Co to re-examine their findings.

"Following a re-examination of the new evidence, Ball & Co did not alter their original conclusion. Mr Bailey is responsible for the maintenance of that part of the retaining wall which lies at the rear of his property.

"He has failed to comply with his responsibilities with the result that both Mr Isaac's property and the neighbouring property have sustained structural damage."

The spokesman added that Mr Bailey's neighbours have accepted their responsibilities and have carried out repairs to their parts of the retaining wall.

Mr Isaac has not had the opportunity to see the David Gregson boundary report yet; Mr Bailey submitted it to the Vale Council only recently.

A Vale Council spokesperson said: "This has been an extremely long-running issue which the council has sought to resolve on numerous occasions, despite having no liability for the structure.

"The responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the wall rests with the owners of the land.

"In 2014 the council employed, at its own expense, an independent chartered surveyor, with expertise in boundary matters, to establish definitely ownership.

"Copies of this report were sent to property owners at Bastian Close, setting out the legal responsibility of each. They were reminded of these responsibilities again in 2016.

"Following further complaints, and in a final attempt to draw this matter to a conclusion, this year the council asked the previously commissioned expert to provide an update based on additional information submitted by the homeowners.

"The expert confirmed that notwithstanding the additional information, the property owners in Bastian Close are, in their opinion, the legal owners of the structure in question."

The spokesman added: "As the structure continues to deteriorate and no action has been taken to repair an element of the wall to the rear of two properties, despite other properties in Bastian Close having undertaken repairs, the council has been left with no alternative to take action under the Building Act and is now seeking a court order forcing the wall's legal owners to take action."

Lloyd and Aisha Bailey claim the wall is outside their boundary. Image by Jodie Woolley. (@aboveandbelowproductions Facebook).

COWBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB

THE club has a special flower arranging demonstration by national demonstrator Pam Lewis from Wiltshire, on Wednesday, June 6 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. There are flower raffles and a cake stall. Visitors are very welcome. Tickets on the door £7.

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HAVE you a problem with your hearing? Action on Hearing Cardiff and Vale can give advice on aids and resources that make life easier. A session will be held on Tuesday, May 29 from 10am to 12pm at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

This is a drop-in session, no appointment is needed. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

MP's surgery

LOCAL MP Alun Cairns, will be available this Saturday, May 26 from 10.30am to midday at the Tescos Superstore, Stirling Road shopping precinct, Stirling Road, Barry (CF62 8NX).

This is a great opportunity if you have any questions or issues you would like to raise with your MP to come and meet with him in person.

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Time to hone your shave horse skills with the Twt Beech Project

THE Twt Beech project is up and running and is holding a wood fair on the Bear field this Sunday and Monday, thanks to the Bear Hotel and part-funding from Creative Communities, who have made this project possible.

The project has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

The aim has always been to try and involve as many people as possible from all walks of life and ages to be involved in creating something from the tree, which used to grow close to the Twt Park in Cowbridge, so come along and try some spoon carving, wood block printing, or stool making, as well as seeing some pole lathe work and shave horse skills (it's not what it seems).

The fair is running alongside the food and drink festival (May 27/28) along with other events on the Bear field.

There are many projects on the go, including commissioning the chainsaw carving, drying the sections ready for furniture making; but smaller objects have already been created from the tree including baskets, spoons, and chairs and some of these will be on display at the fair.

We hope you can join us for what looks like a great weekend.

And while you're at it, you can try the new Twt Beech Lager produced by Llandow-based brewery Tomos a Lilford. It's thirsty work, after all.

It is made with – you've guessed it – chips from the Twt Beech.

Rob from the Tomos a Lilford will be giving a talk on Sunday at 1.30pm at the Food Demo Theatre about this brewing process.

For more information, search for The Twt Beech Project on Facebook, or email Evans_nj@hotmail.com.

Ewart Schofield
ESA Treecare/Twt Beech Project

Classic car show

THE Vale of Glamorgan Classic car show will be held on May 28 in the grounds of the Sully Sports and Leisure Club at 10.30am.

The show will be raising funds for the RNLI, the 1st Dinas Powys Scouts and local community good causes. The RNLI will be supported by the Barry Model Boat Club and Stormy Stan.

They will also be a grand prize draw, with high-value prizes generously donated by local businesses.

As well as classic cars there will be food and drink and activities for children and families, including Vale Owls who will have a wide range of rescued birds on display.

Entrance is £2.50 for adults, accompanied under 14s free.

For more information, contact club secretary Martyn Williams: martyn354@sky.com

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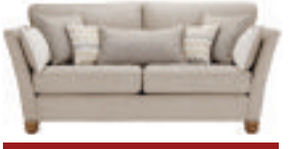

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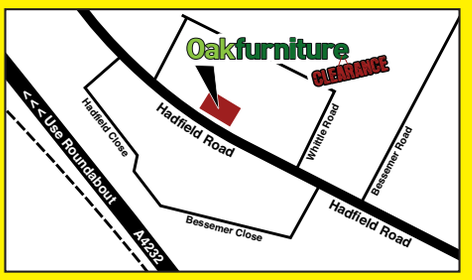

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Competition in the dining out market means the customer is the winner

IF you read the national press these days, you could get the impression that the restaurant sector was having difficulties.

Some celebrity chefs are closing prestige venues, while it looks as if some popular chains such as Prezzos and Carluccios may have over-reached themselves.

There's many reasons for these stories, but the cost of running businesses in the big cities must be a factor.

However, looking around the Vale and Bridgend county borough, the picture looks very different.

Here, potential diners out have a wide choice between long-established venues that possess that culinary gold dust – 'good word of mouth' – and bright new businesses run by bright young chefs who love their food and are keen to make their mark.

Another bonus is that these days, it is pretty much *de rigeur* for restaurants to emphasise how important local produce is to them.

As a result, there is a real synergy and co-operation between restaurateurs and local farmers and market gardeners.

It makes for low food miles dining out, and so many local people have a stake in it – or should that be steak?

Check out the terrific places our area has to offer.

It's a hackneyed phrase, but there really is something for everyone!

PHILIP IRWIN

The Meadow Vale Inn offers another classy culinary option for dining out in the area

THE Meadow Vale is a pub/restaurant that makes a statement before you even walk through the door.

On the road from Cowbridge to Pontyclun, it's on a prominent place on the corner as you enter Ystradowen. For years, drivers have clocked this spot as the White Lion corner, but times have changed.

In recent years the White Lion went through turbulent times. It was the local pub where the locals stayed away, but for John Cheeseman, who is now the general manager, those days are in the past, and even the outside of the building says: "It's a new start under new management".

Its striking smart new frontage is a world away from the old building, and John sees it as a place that will fit well in the Vale gastropub sector.

The locals are enjoying a good range of beers, ciders and lagers, and also local beers, with the Glamorgan brewery prominently featured.

What's more, the Meadow Vale does breakfast, a special two-course lunch at £10.95, Sunday lunches, and also has afternoon teas on the way.

The GEM, however, came along in the evening to sample the a la carte menu. It's worth pointing out that the varied and enticing menu we were presented with will be changing in June, and monthly thereafter, as seasonal quality produce is important to the Meadow Vale.

My guest is a vegetarian and it was pleasing to see two main choices on the menu, plus a third on the evening's specials. As a starter, she chose the Perl Las and leek croquette, with a garlic aoli sauce, and it made the best of the cheese and vegetable mix.

I chose the Welsh mussels in a white wine and smoked leek sauce, with rustic bread. It was all you expect of this dish, with tender, juicy mussels, and a sauce that was just begging to be mopped up with the bread.

Although the main menu is very tempting, and you can see that the Meadow Vale is aiming to give its pub classics a twist, we both opted for dishes from the evening specials board.

My guest chose the linguine, served in a carbonara sauce with roasted cauliflower, smoked leek and blue cheese, and it turned out to be a good choice. A sizeable portion, very attractive on the plate, and with plenty of flavour.

I chose the chicken and wild mushroom *ballotine*, pickled walnuts, fondant potatoes, burnt leek puree with a smoked whisky reduction. This turned out to be a seriously good-looking plate of food, with a lot happening on the plate.

The combination of chicken, mushroom and walnuts was delightful, while the dish was served with a mix of vegetables, some boiled and some pickled, giving a variety of flavours and textures.

The Meadow Vale may have to give some thought to its generous portion sizes if it wants to sell desserts. We were both pretty full, but duty calls, and we moved on to consider what was on offer.

My guest went for the apple and blackberry crumble, and I chose the bread and butter pudding. Both desserts come with the option of ice cream, cream, or custard and we both decided on custard.

It may have been a challenge but it was definitely worth it. The Meadow Vale doesn't want to serve up a bog standard dish, and there were smart and interesting touches on both, and they were packed full of flavour.

For a three-course meal at the Meadow Vale, you can expect to pay between £18 and £26, which is great value for food where the kitchen is working on adding something fresh and interesting to each plateful.

There's a sensible wine list, with bottles ranging from £16 to the mid-twenties, and with a good selection of old and new world wines.

All in all, the Meadow Vale looks like being a fine addition to the culinary scene in the Vale.

The Meadow Vale

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Visit The Golden Mile Country Inn – a beautiful location for all to enjoy

SINCE its launch in August last year, this country inn in Corntown has become a popular venue for lunch and dinner, and is a great place to celebrate special occasions with family and friends.

Offering gastro-pub fare of the highest quality, this charming hostelry also offers accommodation in its stylish en-suite guest rooms and was recently awarded a 4 Star Inn rating from Visit Wales – providing a convenient place to stay while visiting relatives.

The menu has a broad selection of delicious cuisine with something for everyone, including vegetarian and gluten free options and the new summer menu will be launched soon.

On the terrace at the Golden Mile.

Children have their own menu with all their favourites. Sunday lunch has become so popular that it is essential to book in advance if you want to enjoy a delicious roast dinner.!

The Golden Mile celebrates high days and holidays with their customers and have now introduced live music events. What nicer way to spend a summer's afternoon in the sunshine, than by eating delicious food with friends and family while you enjoy the music and the kids run around in the play area (weather permitting!).

Look out for forthcoming events by liking the Facebook page @thegoldenmile corntown and view the menu on-line at www.thegolden mile.co.uk.

THE GOLDEN MILE COUNTRY INN
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MUSIC AT THE MILE
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, MAY 28
Come and enjoy great food while you listen to amazing music from the vintage inspired **PAPER MOON BAND** with vocals from the fabulous **LUCY MOON.**
Lucy and her jazz trio will perform between 3.30pm and 5pm.
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Corntown, Vale of Glamorgan CF35 5BA
www.THEGOLDENMILE.co.uk

Readers' Letters

A Letter From HRH The Prince of Wales in support of local journalism

AS someone who appreciates the vital role played by local newspapers, for many years, I have enjoyed keeping in touch with local issues through such papers as the Aberdeen Press and Journal, the John O'Groats Journal, and the Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard.

These papers, and hundreds like them around the country, highlight so many of the important aspects of local community life in a way that no other media could hope to do.

They offer an invaluable service which is why I wanted to lend my support to the recent Local Newspaper Week, now in its 20th year.

There are countless examples of local newspapers acting as powerful and effective champions for their communities, and very often it is the local media that are first to a story and who stay with it long after the national media have moved on.

Local journalism is about giving communities a voice and empowering people with the knowledge to make informed decisions. Sometimes, a good local newspaper communicates the aspirations or concerns of the local community to a wider audience, putting local issues on the national agenda.

In a rapidly changing media landscape, the advent of digital media has transformed the way we consume our news.

Despite this rapid change, I am very encouraged by the evidence that suggests that local journalism is adapting well and remains in robust health with audience numbers remaining strong across print and digital platforms.

Indeed, I am told by the News Media Association that, according to a recent survey, local newspapers remain the most trusted source of community news and information, ahead of all other media.

The importance of trusted media sources cannot be underestimated in the era of so called 'fake news' and misinformation.

On a personal note, I have been enormously touched by the way local newspapers have covered mine and my wife's visits all over the country throughout so many years and, if I may, I would like to wish local newspapers up and down this country, every possible success in the future.

You provide a vital service which is as important now as it has ever been.

Why does EDF want to dump Hinkley mud on our coast?

I READ with interest your article in The GEM regarding Hinkley Mud, and I have to say that I have no confidence in the National Assembly making the correct decision on this matter.

I fully endorse the petition calling for the licence to be suspended to allow for a full environmental assessment before any dredging and dumping is started.

We already have a problem with excess mud coming ashore on Penarth beach because somebody decided years ago to dump local dredged mud out of Cardiff Dock entrance at the North Cardiff buoy, instead of where it used to be dumped at the Middle Pool buoy, where it would disperse and not cause any environmental problem.

The question that needs to be addressed is why does EDF want to bring this mud all the way from Hinkley beach to the North Cardiff Buoy position for dumping?

The answer to that is there is already a licence issued for dumping mud or sediment here, which makes the whole process easier.

The other question which needs to be asked is why can't they dump this sediment outside Hinkley? There is plenty of depth in that part of the channel and it would not cause any problems, it would just disperse.

The answer to that is that EDF would have to go through the whole process of licence application again.

My message to EDF is, keep your suspect 'mud' in the area of Hinkley. The last thing Penarth needs is a massive mud pollution increase on our beach.

Graham Vodden,
Penarth.

A refreshing sermon at Royal Wedding

HOW refreshing it was to see and hear Bishop Michael Curry deliver his sermon at the Royal Wedding, even if his flavour of Anglicanism is not precisely mine.

Unlike many of our bishops in Wales – including Bishop June of Llandaff – and elsewhere in the UK, he stuck to talking about God, Jesus, and love when given a global stage, rather than politics and the #MeToo campaign.

No doubt Bishop Michael lives in a nice pad, but sermonising about poverty when one lives in a palace, as bishops here do, and spending untold millions on new schemes to get people to 're-connect' with the Church (it is a new Church in Wales policy; look it up) stick in the craw somewhat.

A Forbes, Fonmon.

People must say 'no' to campsite

THIS is the very first letter I have written to a newspaper. I could not believe the piece in The GEM about the Vale Council thinking of putting a campsite at Porthkerry Park.

The park is one of the loveliest in all of south Wales; so tranquil and a haven for wildlife.

I implore everyone in Barry and the Vale to object strongly to this proposal.

Val Lovering,
Rhoose.

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UNITED IN TRIBUTE FOR VICTORY DAY

PROOF, were it needed, that the twain does meet was in Cardiff on May 9 when members of the city's large Russian-speaking community were joined by Brits from Bridgend and the Vale, a Scot, and a couple of passing Americans, to take part in a tribute walk to mark Victory Day.

Victory Day – the end of the Great Patriotic War (*Velikaya Otechestvennaya voyna*) as it is still called by peoples of Russia and other former Soviet republics – falls one day after VE Day.

The reason Victory Day is commemorated on May 9 rather than May 8 (VE Day) is straightforward. The surrender of the Germans forces was on May 8 at 11.01pm, and it was already May 9 in Moscow.

The tribute walk is to honour relatives who died, or fought, in the war.

Many of those taking part carried photographs, or signs declaring the names, of fathers, grandfathers, uncles, mothers, grandmothers, and aunts, and these make up the "Immortal Regiments'. Similar events took place in London, Moscow and elsewhere in the former USSR, and in other parts of the world.

Among those taking part were three veterans of the Arctic (or Russian) Convoys, a route taken by the Merchant and Royal Navies to supply materiel to the Soviets from to and from Allied ports, and Arkhangelsk and Murmansk.

Churchill called it "the worst journey in the world".

He was right.

Temperatures in Winter could plummet to -50° Celsius, waves were massive, as were icebergs.

There was, of course, also the ever-present danger of attack by German U-boats or aircraft.

Representatives of the Royal British Legion and the Merchant Navy Association (Wales) also took part.

Between 1941 and 1945, some four million tonnes of supplies were carried on around 80 convoys. Eighty-five merchant vessels and 16 Royal Navy warships were lost on the routes.

The opposites and incongruities of East meeting West were demonstrated by the veterans and brothers in arms in their 90s – or older – down to babes in arms.

Former British servicemen and Merchant seamen walked next to the wartime Red Flag featuring the hammer and sickle with the Saltire and Union Flag on the other side.

One younger British veteran of an armoured regiment, who was trained at the very end of the Cold War – and whose life expectancy on the battlefields of West Germany had the Russians invaded was around 12 hours – stood side-by-side with those from Moscow and the Russian Far East, and from all points between.

Russian speakers or not, all gave it their best to deliver energetic shouts of *Ypa!* (*Hura!*).

Representatives of the Merchant Navy Association (Wales) were present, as was Teresa Goodwin of the Royal British Legion was there.

She said: " It was a massive privilege to be invited by Alevtina Kempster and others of the Russian-speaking community to attend the Victory Day walk.

The care and respect they showed to our WWII Veterans from the Royal and Merchant Navies, including of course Arctic Convoy Veterans, was amazing.

"Their message of remembrance echoes our own 'At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them.'

"It was extremely touching to witness our common aim of teaching the young people so that past sacrifices are never forgotten."

Alevtina gave similar tribute to those who took part, saying: "It was wonderful to see so many people here, honouring their relatives who died, and those still alive, and it was especially good to see these fine old gentlemen – and so many children – here today.

"Thank you all."

Politics at the tribute walk were forgotten; this rather moving event was to commemorate lives lost in, and the lives saved through, war. **AJ**

More photos on www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

Tribute Walk organiser Alevtina Kempster and Arctic Convoy veteran Harold Boudier.

'Living in fear' because of delays for treatment by NHS Wales

PEOPLE across Wales waiting for NHS treatment are risking long-term reliance on painkillers, mental health problems, unemployment and family breakdown, according to a new report on the impact of delayed treatment in Wales by the Board of Community Health Councils, published on May 10.

Prepared on behalf of the seven Community Health Councils (CHCs) in Wales, 'Our Lives on Hold' reveals the impact that waiting for treatment is having on a range of people of all ages across Wales – and calls on the Welsh Government to act to end long waits.

Hearing from people through advocacy services, engagement events and social and traditional media, the report puts forward the argument that reviewing performance simply against figures of Referral to Treatment Times (RTTs) against a set of targets described in weeks does not provide a picture of what it is like to wait for treatment and neither does it capture the wider and sometimes life changing impact on individuals, families and communities.

The report gathered feedback from people throughout Wales. Most people were living with pain, many with chronic long-term pain substantially affecting their quality of life.

For some people, long-term use of strong pain killers was a cause of concern. People worried about side effects, over reliance and reduced effectiveness. Long waiting times for many procedures coincided with long waiting times for Pain Management Clinics. Many respondents did not meet the criteria for chronic pain management as there is a known and available surgical intervention that would address the problem completely.

Long waiting times also had an impact on many people's mental health, with some reporting feelings of powerlessness and distress and experiencing waits of 100 weeks or more with no clear indication of how much longer they may need to wait.

A continuing theme of the report saw people reporting a combination of decreased mobility, pain and ill-health that removed them from their usual activities and support networks and left them feeling isolated and lonely.

Many people waiting for treatment in Wales told CHCs they are carers themselves, with children, grandchildren, or a spouse who rely on them to provide care that they become unable to carry out.

This often had a financial impact on the entire family and for many respondents, money worries were a major concern. Not all those waiting for treatment were retired, with one respondent age just 25 and facing an 85 week wait for shoulder surgery and unable to work or develop their career like their peers.

With employee sickness benefit timescales not taking long NHS referral to treatment times into account, some people said they were facing great financial hardship. Intolerable levels of pain and mobility problems had also led to some people paying for private treatment.

Some patients lived in fear of their condition worsening while waiting for treatment. One respondent living in south Wales was diagnosed with a brain aneurysm and referred to a hospital in Liverpool for follow up treatment, and at the time of the report was still waiting for the appointment. The respondent reported living with extreme anxiety, concerned that the aneurysm could rupture at any time.

Speaking about the report findings, Mutale Merrill, Chair of the Board of CHCs said: "Some of the stories we heard as part of the collation of this report were extremely distressing. As well as the effects on people's physical and mental health, as well as their finances and employment, there are accounts of patients feeling a loss of dignity and having to rely on others to carry out intimate personal care because they can no longer do it for themselves.

"Others reported a breakdown in relationships or a feeling that their entire lives were on hold – a theme that carried through almost every story we heard."

Ms Merrill continued: "The number of stories in this report equate to only a small proportion of the missed targets reported each month by the NHS in Wales.

"For those who told their stories, this measure is unlikely to hold much meaning. Instead, most people measured their wait in terms of the impact on their day to day life, their finances, their relationships, their careers and their independence.

"It is difficult to see how clear, long established targets on waiting times are meaningful to anyone. As they stand, they are not providing assurance to the public nor driving improvement.

"The Welsh Government needs to look again at how it measures NHS performance.

"Responses to the recent White Paper 'Services fit for the future' indicate widespread support for the introduction in Wales of a Duty of Quality.

"We believe this provides a meaningful opportunity for decision makers to set out clearly and simply what quality means from a service user's perspective. This must include recognising the harm done by inactivity as well as the benefits of timely care."

Commenting on the report, Suzy Davies AM said:

"Enough is enough. The main issues about which constituents contact me are waiting times for ambulances and waiting lists for treatment.

"Only this week I met a constituent who had been told they must wait four years for colorectal surgery despite having previously contracted sepsis due to stoma blockage. It is completely unacceptable to ask someone to live in fear like that – and for so long."

Mrs Davies, the Welsh Conservative AM for South Wales West, added "Today we hear that temporary bed closures are being made permanent and ABMU is looking for further closures.

"If Local Health Boards are struggling with workforce planning then the Labour Welsh Government's Health Secretary must stop saying he "expects" improvements and tackle the reasons why staff are reluctant to come to Wales.

"In the meantime, I hope that these recommendations are acted upon to improve patient experience and control."

GEM readers wishing to comment can send their thoughts to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk. Please include your full contact details.

Alzheimer's Society calls for support on cupcake day

PEOPLE across Wales are being called upon to 'unite against dementia' by signing up for Alzheimer's Society's Cupcake Day on Thursday, June 14.

Alzheimer's Society Cymru (ASC) is urging everyone to unite against dementia with their families, friends and colleagues, by baking or buying cupcakes to raise funds.

Eirwen Jones, of ASC, said: "We're calling on people across Wales to dust off their bowls and start whipping their cream for ASC's cupcake day.

"Each cupcake will help us find a cure, improve care and offer help and understanding for people affected.

"Whether you choose to celebrate on June 14 or mark the occasion another time in the month, there are no excuses not to get involved. Visit cupcakeday.org.uk to sign up today."

Last year more than 1,400 people supported cupcake day and people in Wales raised £60,000. This year, ASC hopes to raise even more. **MF**

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

New mayor for Llantwit Major

THE annual meeting of Llantwit Major Town Council took place on May 3, when Cllr Dr David Ellis was elected Town Mayor for 2018/19 and his wife Mrs Barbara Ellis, was named as his consort.

Cllr Robert Grant was elected deputy Town Mayor.

Cllr Dr Ellis said: "I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Cllr Jayne Norman, who has done a sterling job as Mayor over the last year.

"She has worked tirelessly for the good of the town and raised a phenomenal amount of money for her chosen charities. I congratulate her on a very successful year."

Cllr Dr Ellis confirmed he will continue with Cllr Norman's work in promoting Llantwit Major as a dementia friendly town. The Mayor set the following objective for the year: 'To make Llantwit Major a safer, healthier and more sustainable town in which to live'.

Cllr Dr Ellis nominated Headlines, Age Connects and St Illtud's Church (Restoration) as his chosen charities.

Cllr Dr David Ellis was elected Llantwit Major's Town Mayor recently.

Llantwit Major Art Trail displays through May

HAVE you followed the Art Trail around Llantwit Major yet?

The trail consists of 10 pieces of art work produced by members of Llantwit Major Art and Craft Group.

The works are being displayed by local businesses and the Galilee Chapel throughout Llantwit Major during May.

Llantwit Major Art and Craft Group is delighted with the support of local businesses and the Galilee Chapel St Illtud's Church.

The art trail is part of Gwanwyn, which is a month-long festival encouraging creativity in all kinds of arts.

AL

Following Llantwit Art Trail, which lasts until the end of this month.

Volunteer celebrates 23 years at BHF Cymru shop

MEINIR DAVID (79) has spent more than 15,000 hours volunteering for the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Cymru.

Meinir, from Bryncethin, volunteers in the shop at Caroline Street in Bridgend town centre on three afternoons a week.

Meinir started volunteering in 1995 when her daughter Rachel volunteered at the shop every Saturday and one week, Meinir decided to join her.

"I came in here with my daughter and thought 'this is a good place to work'," she said.

Little did she know that she would still play an important role in the store two decades later.

"I have seen a lot of changes in that time. The shop location has moved from the building next door and Bridgend's town centre has changed a lot too."

But one thing that has not changed is Meinir's love for the job and the staff and customers' affection for Meinir.

"I do a bit of everything. I love meeting people and it's a great team to work with," said the dedicated volunteer.

Shop manager Ceri Coates said: "Meinir is a very special lady, and she's held in very high regard by our staff, other volunteers and customers. Many of our regular customers come in on the days Meinir volunteers here, just to speak with her.

Meinir David with Adam Fletcher, head of BHF Cymru.

"People choose to volunteer for many different reasons, and we have a great team ethos. To be here 23 years is something very special, and we're hoping she'll still be volunteering with us when she turns 80 next year so we can enjoy some special celebrations."

Meinir was thanked by the head of BHF Cymru Adam Fletcher, who presented her with a gift, flowers and chocolates.

Mr Fletcher said: "It's a real pleasure to meet Meinir and be able to thank her for all her support. Twenty three years' service is a wonderful achievement and I'm so impressed by Meinir's unwavering dedication.

"She is a credit to BHF Cymru and its really inspiring seeing her working as part of a great team. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our loyal volunteers who really make our shops special and are all doing their bit to help."

Go to **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

WI learn the secrets of the Royal Mint

The Colwinston and Llysworney WI members at the summit of Pen y Fan.

AT the May meeting of Colwinston and Llysworney WI the speaker, Chris Barker, assistant curator of the Royal Mint Museum, gave a fascinating talk with slides.

He took us from the beginning of the Mint in 886, in the Tower of London on Mint Street, to the present day.

The system of weighing the bullion, smelting, beating to correct thickness, cutting the discs and making the coins is still the same today, although done by very sophisticated machinery instead of by hand and on a much greater scale.

The Mint moved to Tower Hill, London, in the 1800s and continued there until the 1960s when because of decimalisation, more capacity was required.

The then Chancellor of the Exchequer, James Callaghan, brought the Mint to Llantrisant where it is today.

Chris showed us many slides illustrating coins from medieval times: the first sovereign, named by George III; the guinea, so called because it was made of gold from Guinea, and many other interesting facts.

President Liz reminded everyone of the theatre trip in June to see *Grumpy Old Women*, the village fete in July and the summer social meeting. Names were taken for a trip to Bath.

Sue, Kath and Susan joined 40 other WI members from around Glamorgan in the Pen Y Fan Challenge. Having made it to the top, all 43 of us sang 'Jerusalem', much to the surprise of all the other walkers. The photo shows the Colwinston ladies at the peak.

KJ

AM praises residents as bus services are retained

REGIONAL AM Suzy Davies has praised Porthcawl residents for the fight they put up to retain bus subsidies on two routes around Porthcawl.

Ms Davies, a Welsh Conservative, said residents and elected councillors had made their views very clear at a public meeting organised by BCBC to discuss the proposal to cut the subsidies from two routes in Porthcawl – the route through Rest Bay and Nottage and another route serving Happy Valley, Danygraig and Newton.

She went on: "Residents made many good points at this meeting in which they pointed out that if this route was scrapped, there would be no bus service to the new health centre currently being built at Newton. Some strong arguments were also made about how many elderly people without cars would be isolated and excluded from social activities and even shopping.

"I am pleased that the council has listened, which proves that it is always worthwhile to take part in these consultations because not all decisions are cut and dried as many people imagine.

"This is also good news for Porthcawl town centre traders as cutting off a whole sector of the population from their local shops was not a good idea and could have cost the council more in the long run through loss of business rates if these shops had closed."

BCBC's cabinet has decided to retain the subsidies for the next year on routes 803 and 61 in Porthcawl and also route 51 which serves the Oaklands Road and Newcastle district of Bridgend. The fight to keep this route open was led by BCBC Conservative councillor Carolyn Webster.

She said: "This route is so important for many people as it allows access to the Recreation Centre and library. I have concerns about other routes where the subsidies were not retained but all play their part in keeping people in work and out of isolation.

"I am pressing officers, who are currently engaged with the bus operators, to ensure that all options are looked at to ensure that the other bus services continue to serve all communities effectively."

JI

St Athan WI hosts Link meeting

ON May 18, the St Athan WI hosted an evening of coffee, cake and singing for the four WI groups in the Heritage Link.

Members of the WI were joined by representatives from Llantwit, Rhoose and Llanmaes WIs and the evening was held in the Paul Lewis Community Centre in St Athan.

As the Royal Wedding was the following day the evening was themed red, white and blue. The hall was beautifully decorated with bunting and flowers and the contribution of cakes was astounding.

The ladies entered into the spirit by wearing red, white and blue or donning beautiful fascinators and hats. This was the WI at its best.

The entertainment was provided by the very talented Only Menopause Allowed ladies' choir. Led by their enigmatic conductor, Bethan, they sang a mixture of old and modern songs ranging from Abba to American spirituals, and back again.

There were plenty of opportunities for the audience to join in with the choir as Bethan had everyone up on their feet doing actions and singing along.

It was a very entertaining evening enjoyed by everyone and a big thank you must go out to the St Athan WI committee for organising such a memorable evening.

SIAN PICKETT

Royal watching at library

AT St Athan Community Hub and Library, full TV coverage was provided of the royal wedding when a coffee morning was held, with cream teas.

The sum of £54 was raised for the community library charity. A steady stream of people came and watched parts of the coverage and bought refreshments. A small number of enthusiasts stayed for the full five hours.

Some new people were attracted to the library and visitors complimented the organisers for running a "stylish" and enjoyable event, with delicious food, great tea and coffee, and lovely silver and crockery. Many of those who came said that it was great to watch the event in company, in a party atmosphere and one commentator on Facebook said that "this is what community is all about".

GM

GORDON BROWN COMES TO GRIFFIN

THE former Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, will be in the area on Sunday, June 3 for a talk and book signing, hosted by Griffin Books, Penarth's independent bookshop, at Cardiff City Football Club.

Mr Brown will be interviewed by Kevin Brennan, MP for Cardiff West, about his autobiography *My Life, Our Times* before signing copies of the book, described as a 'candid, poignant and deeply relevant story... an invaluable insight into our times'.

Bookshop owner Mel Griffin said: "Mr Brown will only be in Wales for one day, so we're delighted to have the opportunity to host this event with him before he appears at the Hay Festival later that afternoon."

Doors open at 11am for a 12 noon start, and tickets are £20 including refreshments and a copy of *My Life, Our Times* (discounted rates for students).

To book, visit ticketsource.co.uk or call the shop on 02920 706455.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning
(Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: **2018/00548/CAC**
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed demolition and re-build of 2 bedroom replacement dwelling
Location:/Lleoliad: The Bungalow, 1, Factory Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Llanblethian

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: **2017/01279/LBC**
Proposal:/Cynnig: A section of the house consists of a two storey adjoined building which was previously a barn with cart sheds below. This area was incorporated into the house several years ago (with all necessary permissions) and includes the kitchen, a small utility room, toilet and a small study space on a mezzanine floor. The proposed plan is now to extend the mezzanine floor to enable a larger study, a larger utility room below this, and a reorganised kitchen. This plan involves no changes to the external appearance of the building. To extend the mezzanine floor would require work to the internal roof structure. Specifically a collar would need to be removed from one A frame in the roof structure and appropriate changes would need to be made to this to maintain the structural integrity of the roof. Civil engineering drawings and calculations have been undertaken and included with this application.
Location:/Lleoliad: Ty Fry Farm, Llandow
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No:/ **2018/00431/LBC**
Proposal:/Cynnig: Repair and modernisation of existing extension involving two walls at the rear of property. Maintaining the existing footprint. The existing structure is rotting due to the type of wood used in the side panels. Replace the current wooden structure with UPVC and glass. All glass will be double glazed gas filled safety glass. Place EPDM rubber over the top of existing fibreglass roof on same extended conservatory area, helping to prevent further leaks and improve insulation. Replace existing white UPVC roof lantern for a grey UVPC lantern of the same size. The current roof lantern leaks due to poor fitting.
Location:/Lleoliad: 5, Pwll Y Min Crescent, Peterston Super Ely
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No:/ **2018/00531/LBC**
Proposal:/Cynnig: Addition of a bespoke Victorian verandah to the rear of the property in front of the kitchen and abutting the 2012 extension
Location:/Lleoliad: The Lodge, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No:/ **2018/00532/LBC**
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed refurbishment and internal alteration of existing outbuilding to provide classroom and ancillary areas for educational and community use
Location:/Lleoliad: Albert Primary School And Nursery, Albert Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No:/ **2018/00534/LBC**
Rhif y cais:
Proposal:/Cynnig: Installation of disabled lift
Location:/Lleoliad: Town Hall, Cowbridge With Llanblethian Town Council, 21, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II*

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ **2018/00482/HYB**
Proposal:/Cynnig: Hybrid planning application as an 'enabling development' to facilitate the restoration of Hensol Castle, comprising of the following: Site 1: Full Application: for the erection of 10 dwellings and associated access and works on land at Gardeners Mews to the north of the Walled Garden, Hensol. Site 2: Outline Application: for the erection of 6 detached dwellings and associated access and works on land to the west of Sail Newydd, Hensol
Location:/Lleoliad: Hensol Castle, Hensol Castle Park, Hensol

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 24 May, 2018

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager,
Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Gaye joins a quiet tea for 8,000 at Buck Palace

I WAS invited to attend the Her Majesty The Queen's First Garden Party at Buckingham Palace as a recipient of the British Empire Medal BEM in this years New Year's Honours.

Gay Fifield BEM (right) and colleague with the Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP.

I took with me a friend who is involved with Age Connects Senior Health Shop and Friends and Neighbours.

From the moment we stepped through the gates of the Palace, we joined a multitude; we knew we were on the start of a very special experience.

With ladies and gents in their finest and a multitude of top hats and in every direction there was a palpable air of excitement

A military band provided the entertainment and there were many exclamations of: "Can you believe the weather?" it being some 25° Celsius.

Tea was served at 3.30pm in the refreshment tent and I wondered how staff would cope with their being some 8,000 people in attendance.

At 4pm, the *National Anthem* was played and The Queen dressed in a blue coat and matching hat and two of her sons, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, arrived at the Buckingham steps.

The Beefeaters [Yeomen Warders of Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress the Tower of London, and Members of the Sovereigns Body Guard of the Yeoman Guard Extraordinary] made sure not a toe was over the line as the Royal Family made its way to the Royal Tent.

As its members made their way down the line they chatted to many in the crowd. I noticed at this point The Queen was wearing dark glasses and walked with a umbrella.

They made their way to the Royal Tent for refreshments along with special guests. We took the opportunity to have some refreshments and took some photos.

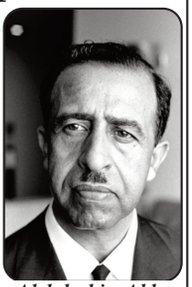
At 5.30pm The Queen's party made their way up the line again; we then left through the Palace, taking time to look at the architecture and beautiful paintings and 'wowed' at the staircase on both sides.

We took some photos outside before we left and both said it was an experience never to be forgotten.

Gay Fifield BEM

More tributes paid to top Barry-born diplomat

AS reported in last week's GEM, the Mayor of the Vale, Cllr Leighton Rowlands, paid tribute to Barry-born Somali diplomat Abdulrahim Abby Farah who died at his home in New York on May 14.



Abdulrahim Abby Farah.

Mr Farah was 98 and has been described as one of Somalia's most accomplished diplomats.

His nephew Steve Khaireh contacted The GEM to add a tribute.

He said his uncle had led a remarkable life.

"There's an in joke in our family that we were all born in 50 Thompson Street Barry, and Abby, his son Abdulrahman, and Abdulrahim's brother and I all received MBEs and he was the forgotten one, despite his achievements which put all of us in the shade!"

Among Mr Farah's achievements were serving as Somalia's Ambassador to Ethiopia from 1961 until 1965 and taking on the role of the country's representative to the United Nations in New York from 1965 until 1972. He also represented Somalia in the League of Arab States from 1979 until 1990.

Mr Khaireh added: "He lived an amazing life. He had all his faculties and he was always humble.

"His family was always proud of the work he did around the world and the efforts he made to help communities."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "We all need to learn lessons from like Abdulrahim Abby Farah who was born and educated at Gladstone School and Barry Grammar School before leaving for Oxford and making a huge mark in the world.

"Representing Somalia in the United Nations for 25 years, Mr Farah has had an extraordinary career as a diplomat serving Somalia but also standing up for human rights and equality in South Africa and across the world.

"He is a man our children will want to know more about so we can learn lessons from him, as we give our deepest sympathies and condolences to his family, friends, community here in Wales and in Somalia."

Vale Council looks into Dinas Powys 'holes'

Cllr Crowley is 'concerned' about people making their way to St Andrews School or onto Dinas Common.

TWO POSSIBLE mini 'sink-holes' have appeared at the bottom of the footpath to Dinas Powys Common that joins Station Road near the A4055 Cardiff Road junction.

They have also destabilised the hand-rail fence that has stood firm for decades.

Cllr Rob Crowley said: "The holes are a real mystery as they're bigger than mole-holes and there are no piles of displaced earth where they've burrowed.

"Residents had asked me to see if the council could put in a footpath for the last stretch to the Station Road footpath because pedestrians have to step into the road for the last 10 metres.

"The way drivers are using the route through the village as a rat-run means it's particularly dangerous for parents walking their children to St Andrews School or taking them to the play equipment."

Cllr Crowley has contacted Vale Council officers who will look into the matter.

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Council takes another look at 'glamping' plans

PLANS to set up 'glamping pods' at popular Vale country parks are to be considered again due to fears over privatisation of the land.

The Vale Council had approved plans to lease acres of Porthkerry Country Park and Cosmeston Lakes Country Park to turn them into sites for 'high-quality camping pods'.

But the council's environment and regeneration scrutiny committee on Thursday night (May 17) voted to send the proposal back to cabinet for re-consideration.

Cllr Lis Burnett, who called the decision in for further scrutiny, said the plans "appear to relate to the disposal and potential privatisation of large tracts of public open space within our country parks to facilitate the establishment of camp-sites which would render them off limits to members of the public."

She said: "The big question for many residents is whether this is creeping privatisation. Is there a privatisation of public resources agenda being developed?

"Many of us saw the horrendous images of litter and damage at Cosmeston recently. In reality these issues are already kicking in. As a result of overall budget cuts I understand that resources for litter picking have been reduced and that there is regular abuse of the conservation areas.

"Our country parks desperately need additional resources but I would ask scrutiny to consider whether this is the appropriate way to provide them."

Cllr Burnett also told the committee that Cllr Bob Penrose, the cabinet member for learning and culture, had in 2016 asked the authority to investigate whether Center Parcs could set up a resort at Cosmeston Park.

Sully councillor Kevin Mahoney spoke in favour of the call-in, but accused councillor Burnett of "utter hypocrisy" because a plan for wake-boarding in Cosmeston Lakes was put forward under the previous Labour administration.

He said: "What they're proposing is to intrude on one of the most serene, picturesque parts of the country park with a bunch of glamping pods.

"The people funding our parks will be deprived of that. Why don't we start looking after people in our area rather than people in other areas?" Councillors Nic Hodges and Mark Wilson also spoke in favour of the decision being called in.

Bob Guy, operational manager for regeneration at the Vale Council, told the meeting the authority plans to explore "commercial partnerships and ways of improving the parks as well as making them more sustainable."

"The other reason for looking in that direction was to bring the parks into the 21st century with its tourism offer," he said. "There are a number of reasons we're exploring opportunities."

Concerns were also raised about the lack of detail in the proposals, about how much money they could make, and how widely publicised they had been before cabinet approval.

Cllr Jonathan Bird, cabinet member for regeneration and planning, said the council only want to explore opportunities for the sites and would come back before scrutiny committees with more specific proposals.

He said: "All we're asking to do is ask people if they have any ideas, and we can decide properly.

"I'm happy for every individual decision on any application that comes through to go through cabinet."

But all but two members of the committee voted to call-in the decision.

Cllr Vincent Driscoll voted against while Cllr Stewart Edwards abstained.

Speaking after the meeting, Cllr Burnett said: "I'm not against activities, I'm against the privatisation of public open space.

"I hope now that the cabinet will take notice of the strength of public opinion against plans to privatise areas of our country parks. Finding the right mix of activities in our country parks is a fine balance."

LDR

RED LETTER DAY AS VALE COUNCIL CELEBRATES BLUE FLAGS

THE Vale Council has received seven awards for coastal spaces in the county in recognition of their high quality.

Whitmore Bay, Southerndown and Penarth Marina were awarded Blue Flags by the Foundation for Environmental Education, with the first two also landing Seaside Awards, along with Jacksons Bay and Cold Knap.

Internationally recognised, the Blue Flag is widely considered the 'gold standard' for beaches.

Blue Flag certification guarantees the quality of bathing water, but there are a total of 33 targets spread across four categories that beaches must meet to gain the award.

Penarth is one of only three marinas in Wales to receive the accolade, while Southerndown is a new entry on the Blue Flag list as the number of Vale spaces with the honour grew from two to three.

That beach has also been handed a Seaside Award, as have Jackson's Bay and Cold Knap.

VC

'No unnecessary delays in housing Syrian family' says council leader

A family of Syrian refugees are a step closer to finding a new home in Penarth.

Volunteers from 'Croeso Penarth' have been given a boost in their efforts to bring a family from a United Nations safe haven to the coastal town.

The Vale Council cabinet on Monday (May 21) approved the resettlement bid, allowing Croeso Penarth to press ahead with the scheme run by the UN and the Home Office.

The approval came after claims the council was causing "unnecessary delays" to the process and keeping a family at the camp for longer than they needed to.

But Cllr John Thomas, the Leader of the Vale Council, dismissed this claim at Monday's cabinet meeting.

He said: "I can assure members that there has been no unnecessary delay.

"It's very important the local authority get things right before we give consent.

"We have got to the stage that we're happy to consent, and I'm very happy to be able to do so.

"I'm very pleased we have got to the stage where we are, and confirm there have been no unnecessary delays."

Croeso Penarth has previously said it submitted its bid to the council in January, and similar schemes have been approved by other authorities in between two and six weeks.

Four Syrian refugee families were resettled in the Vale in 2016/17 – the first year of the scheme – including nine adults and 10 children.

In 2017/18, the council planned to resettle four families, and only two – four adults and six children – were actually brought to the area.

There are plans to receive an additional two families in June.

LDR

Vale Council to receive more than £40,000 to deal with 'period poverty'

SCHOOLS will each be given up to £100 of sanitary products for pupils in the Vale.

The Vale Council has approved plans to provide products that a re free at the point of use to every school girl in the area as part of a national campaign.

The Welsh Government has given the council £31,500 this financial year for sanitary equipment to be installed in schools, and £8,666 to buy the products themselves.

Councillors will form a working group to decide how the money should be used and gather evidence about the Vale's current approach to dealing with the issue.

In the meantime schools will given sanitary products while the full details of the scheme are worked through.

All secondary schools will get £100 worth of sanitary products, and all primary schools will be given £30 worth after plans were approved by Vale Council's cabinet on Monday (May 21).

The plan was agreed after a previous council meeting heard that some girls are reportedly missing school because their parents cannot afford sanitary products.

LDR

Go to The GEM for the latest stories and breaking news... www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'Llandough needs a transport solution now'

A DINAS POWYS councillor says expansion at Llandough Hospital needs a proper road infrastructure around it.

There are plans for a £16 million brain injury rehabilitation centre as well as the relocation to Llandough of the neurological and spinal services unit from Rookwood Hospital in Llandaff.

Cllr Andy Robertson said: "Further expansions planned at Llandough Hospital are exciting and welcome on many levels – but horrifying without the planned addition of the right surrounding infrastructure."

He pointed out that there was also a proposal to build a two-storey extension to its orthopaedic unit to include offices, changing facilities and reception. This will allow space in the existing premises to build two new operating theatres.

Cllr Robertson explained: "This all sounds wonderful, but it's all being done without any improvement to adjoining roads to ease the increasing traffic.

"The Merrie Harrier Junction is set to become 400 per cent over capacity by 2026 according to the Highway Impact Assessment commissioned by the previous Vale administration in 2013. It's already over capacity.

"Llandough hospital has tripled in size in the last few years. It is now the second largest hospital in Wales, and the second biggest employer in the Vale.

"Now, despite promises to fund and carry out the results of a study into the traffic corridor through Dinas Powys, the Welsh Government has declined a funding application of the next stage of the study they initiated.

"So far, it has cost over £100,000 which alone would mean these public funds would have been wasted.

"That means no improvement at all can happen, with or without a by-pass, as the study is incomplete. However, funds are in place to complete Stage 2 and it will be interesting to see which option will be chosen.

"The Assembly is not just ignoring the daily bottleneck of vehicles winding their way through the eastern Vale but playing with people's lives.

"Most ambulances and other emergency vehicles have to use the A4055 (Barry to Dinas road) and are being snarled in traffic even with their sirens blaring.

"There are still around 3,000 more houses to be built around this area that form part of the Local Development Plan which was largely developed by the previous administration. That's up to another 6,000 vehicles each way daily through an unchanged Merrie Harrier junction."

He said he had requested a meeting with Ken Skates, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport to discuss local transport problems.

"We're still waiting for his response. The head of Llandough Hospital has said they're desperate for better vehicle access in and out of the hospital. All we're trying to do is help to achieve this for everyone's benefit."

A Welsh Government spokesman provided optimism that further funding for the study would become available later in the financial year.

"While we are aware of the transport issues that remain in the area and the need for further improvements, we have already invested in transport improvements in this part of the Vale.

"Competing government priorities and our ambitious programme of infrastructure upgrades across Wales meant there was insufficient funding for the Welsh Government to continue to support the Dinas Powys Transport Study being taken forward by the Vale Council.

"However, Welsh Government officials will continue to engage with the council and will review the position should additional funding become available within this financial year."

LINK ROAD 'ACTION GROUP' IS FORMED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

The spokesman continued: "A public meeting was held at Pendoylan Memorial Hall earlier this month and was attended by Vale AM Jane Hutt, along with over 200 locals from Pendoylan and several surrounding villages.

"It was disclosed at the meeting that all email responses to an initial consultation exercise on the road last year had not been received or considered by the Vale Council or their consultants."

VCFFG says that speakers at the meeting alleged failures on the part of the council and its consultants to follow legally required procedures in the design and appraisal process, and reported that Ms Hutt said that she would investigate whether Welsh Government procedures had been followed.

VCFFG is 'unimpressed' with the economic justification, saying that it is 'too high a price' to pay for helping Cardiff Airport and the St Athan Enterprise Zone.

The spokesman claimed the airport is loss making, saying: " The airport recently released results for the financial year 2016-17 showing pre-tax losses of £5.97m.

"The previous year's results showed a pre-tax loss of £4.9m. The airport boasted annual passenger throughput in October 2017 of 1.4 million a year; less than Bridgend train station.

"There remains no hard evidence to suggest the new M4 link road would deliver levels of economic growth to justify the investment required."

The group is also querying the cost projections. Arcadis (the consultants chosen by the Vale Council) suggest the three-mile length of road should be deliverable for a cost between £57 million and £81 million, depending on which route is adopted.

However, the VCFFG spokesman responded: "The recently-constructed extension to Cardiff's Eastern Bay Link Road, extending to 0.75 miles and linking the A4232 Butetown Tunnel to Rover Way, was initially estimated at a cost of £27 million but was opened in June last year at a final cost of £57.3 million."

The spokesman said: "Anybody who is not aware of the new highway proposals should visit the Vale Council's website and follow links to "M4 to A48 Transport Network Consultation".

"Consultation responses are required by June 5, after the previous deadline was extended due to the lobbying efforts of VCFFG. Anyone who wishes to liaise with the group can email contact.vcffg@gmail.com.

NR

The Bluejays at The Memo

THE Bluejays – a rock 'n' roll band – will perform at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry, on Saturday, May 26 at 7.30pm.

The Bluejays take you on a historical journey via renditions of the biggest hits of the era (Rock Around The Clock, That'll Be The Day, Summertime Blues, Johnny B Goode, Wake Up Little Susie, La Bamba, A Teenager In Love and many more) and reveal how the rock 'n' roll movement, rather than being "a communicable disease", brought about a dream of equality and freedom that we still chase to this day.

Call the box office on 01446 738622 for further details and tickets, or tickets are available online at www.memoartscentre.co.uk.

BH

Councillors' coffee morning

THE next Dinas Powys councillors' coffee morning will be held on Saturday, May 26, from 11am until noon.

The venue is the Murch Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys where people can have a chat in a relaxed atmosphere.

Those attending include Chris Franks, John Fanshaw, Richard Grigg, Sara Kear-Smith, Anne Asbrey, Steve Thomas, Val Hartrey and Keith Hatton. Alternatively, contact 07725 497 423; familyfranks@btinternet.com; Facebook: Chris Franks.

'Barry needs affordable retail units' says councillor

PLANS for new shops and apartments on derelict wasteland are at the centre of a planning row in Barry.

As reported in last week's GEM a mixed development of flats and four small shops is being planned on a vacant site in Thompson Street, at the back of 50 Holton Road next to the Liberal Club.

Barry Town Council has objected to the plans, claiming it would be an "over-development" of the site, while Plaid Cymru have said the application is "below standard".

But Cllr Vincent Driscoll, director the Fresh Bacon Company, which is behind the plans, has said the new flats and shops are much needed in the area and criticised Plaid councillors for "objecting to everything".

The Vale Council's planning committee will decide whether to allow the development.

Cllr Driscoll said the shops would be significantly more affordable to let than other units in Holton Road, where some businesses are paying up to £25,000 a year in rent and rates.

But Barry Town Council, in a letter of objection, said: "The proposal fails to indicate any fire escape and there is a lack of provision of amenity space for the proposed flats.

"Additionally, the council have concerns regarding the servicing of the retail units directly off Thompson Street."

In April's planning committee meeting, Plaid Cymru councillors voted to defer an application to turn a former Barry office block into 32 new affordable homes over fears work spaces are disappearing in the town.

The scheme, at Provincial House in Kendrick Road, was eventually allowed by the committee.

Cllr Driscoll said the shops he's proposing in Thompson Street will be low rent and won't be liable for rates – making them the cheapest town centre units available.

"The alternative is to turn it into all apartments – which a local housing association is willing to do," he said.

"I'm not surprised Plaid objected – they object to absolutely everything.

"Here, a member of the council is investing his own money in a vacant site in the town centre. Plaid should tell the people of Barry what they want to happen in the town centre.

"They are critical of everything the council does.

"I'm investing my own money in a regeneration of a brownfield site in the town centre."

LDR

Dinas Council elects new Chair

DINAS POWYS community councillors unanimously elected Cllr Steve Thomas to be Chair of the council for the next 12 months.

Cllr Steve Thomas (right) with Cllr John Fanshaw.

Cllr Thomas stated that he hoped that a sense of harmony and endeavour would prevail in the council, with everyone working to the best of their ability to ensure the best outcomes for the village.

He said he would encourage the council to address big issues such as the bypass, housing and the local infrastructure with the same enthusiasm as those who spoil the quality of life by fly tipping, inconsiderate parking and anti-social behaviour within the village.

Finally, the chairman wished the best to all those organisations who work hard to improve the quality of life in the village and in particular all those who volunteer in the many clubs, teams and societies.

Retiring chair Cllr Andy Robertson was congratulated for his service over the last year.

In proposing a vote of thanks to him, Cllr Chris Franks said that it could have been a difficult year.

He said: "There was a new council, with a lot of new faces elected and we had a new clerk. We all appreciated your commitment to ensure that the last year was a success."

Cllr John Fanshaw was elected as the new Vice Chair. He is also Chair of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, Chair of Murch Community Centre and a church warden.

TC

'Friendship' festival at Cold Knap

BARRY'S 'Friendship Tree Festival' takes place at the Knap Lake and Gardens on Sunday, June 3, and local artist Glyn Pooley says it should be a great day with a few surprises in store.

He said: "Art4 U's annual arts festival will feature many local, musicians, artists and dancers. We will also have few special guest surprises.

"It is a free day of music, art and dance. The event starts at 11.30am."

For more information on Art4U Wales or to arrange a donation, go to: http://www.art4uwales.org.uk.

Funding for bypass study 'could be found'

THE study for a Dinas bypass is still on course, the chair of Dinas Powys Bypass Steering Group has claimed.

Rod Harrod told The GEM that he was pleased to hear that the Vale Council had received encouraging news from the Welsh Government.

"We've just heard some good news from Cllr John Thomas, Leader of the Vale Council, that the WelTAG study for the bypass is still on course.

"He's received a response from Ken Skates, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport, as to why the funding for 'stage 3' of the study was just not considered affordable within the Local Transport Fund budget.

"Mr Skates told the Vale Leader his officers will continue to work with Vale officers on the studies."

Mr Harrod explained: "I believe because of the size of the bypass study and project, a different funding budget will need to be applied for the bypass.

"This may be similar to the way that the funding for Five Mile Lane had to come from a 'Special Projects Budget."

He added: "Stage 3 will involve greater detail of the process once an option is chosen at the end of Stage 2."

TC

Penarth hosts volunteer event

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) regularly hosts a series of mini volunteering events in various locations across the Vale.

The next will be held on Thursday, May 31 at Penarth Library from 11am to 2pm.

A GVS spokesperson said: "It is a chance to embark on a new adventure as a volunteer and open up a world of opportunities. You will be able to chat directly with local volunteering providers and find the right opportunity.

"Volunteering is a good way to get to know your community better, meet new people, and gain new experiences. You'll also boost your chances of finding paid work. "

GVS development officer, Dave Edwards, will also be attending and will be available to discuss your funding requirements. So as well as finding out more about volunteering opportunities, you can also take advantage and find out more about how to improve your funding position.

If you would like to attend just come along on the day and a warm welcome is guaranteed. For all enquiries contact GVS, Tel: 01446 741706, E-mail: enquiries@gvs.wales, www.gvs.wales.

Park and ride funding approved

PLANS for a new park and ride site and a pedestrian link between Penarth and Cardiff Bay are a step closer after funding was approved.

Plans for a new park and ride site at Cosmeston Lakes Country Park, and also the proposed Penarth Headland Link – a 1km pedestrian and cycle link between the Cardiff Bay Barrage and Penarth Esplanade – will be explored by Vale Council.

The park and ride would run buses to Penarth Esplanade to link up with the new headland link – saving people living on the edge of Penarth from having to drive through the centre of town.

And it is also hoped the walkway will allow Penarth to share in the economic success of Cardiff Bay.

The council has been given more than £1million to look into transport initiatives, which includes £600,000 to prepare business cases on improving coastal transport links with Cardiff, as announced at the council's cabinet meeting on Monday (May 21).

Dozens of bus stops will also be improved along the A48 between Cowbridge and Culverhouse Cross and in Llantwit Major, Barry and Penarth thanks to an award of £145,000 of Welsh Government funding, with a further £105,000 likely to follow next year.

It is hoped the bus stop improvements will lead to more frequent services.

A further £214,000 of Welsh Government funding will be put towards planning eight new walking and cycling routes in and around Dinas Powys.

But bids for £1million to complete a study into the Dinas Powys bypass, and for further cash to look into transport links between the M4 and A48, were both turned down.

LDR

Car stolen during Penarth burglary

POLICE are investigating a burglary which occurred in Plas Taliesin, Penarth, overnight on Sunday, May 20.

A black Ford Mondeo was stolen during the burglary after the burglar obtained the keys from the owner's knapsack.

Officers are reminding residents to 'make sure their doors are locked' and any belongings are stored safely.

To minimise the risk of suffering this type of burglary, the police recommend keeping all keys out of view, ideally taking keys, handbags, and mobile telephones, upstairs, unless you live in a bungalow, when going to bed, and away from windows, doors – and cat-flaps.

Anyone with information should call 101, quoting reference 1800180181, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

'Facing a seemingly never-ending tide of rubbish'

THE plastic problem – it's just not going to go away.

Plastic is ''disposable' and for many people that means they can just chuck the empty drink bottle over their shoulder and forget about it.

But we can't. Plastic does not just go away. I get envious of builders and bricklayers – they do a job and, years afterwards, they can walk past a house, shop, school, library or church with their grandchildren and say "I built that".

There are people who regard parts of Barry as their own personal tip. Are they, in decades to come, going to walk past a pile of plastic bottles and proudly say to their grandchildren, "I built that"? They could do, because the plastic bottles will still be there decades later.

Henderson Island in the South Pacific is one of the most remote islands in the world and covered in 18 tonnes of plastic that has been washed across the oceans.

Beaches are often cleaned in the mornings. We actually have it backwards. The beach needs sweeping late afternoon, as the visitors are leaving because if it isn't, the rubbish will be picked up by the tide to pollute the seas.

The local council does a splendid job in a 'Catch 22' situation which they can't win.

If, as recently, there is an enormous amount of litter left, the council gets criticised for not removing it. That costs money. If the money is spent on extra resources and manpower to clear the litter, the council gets criticised for not spending enough on other vital services.

But the simple fact is that sweeping the beach in the morning is a 'stable door' job. Perhaps a change in our signs might yield results.

Not so long ago I went on holiday to America. Visiting San Francisco my wife and I could not help but notice the absence of litter, particularly in parks. The signs were positive and appealed to people's better nature. One example was: 'Thank you for helping to keep our park beautiful by taking your trash home'.

Much attention was drawn to the issue of littering recently when two schoolgirls, Nia Davies and Amelie Alexander (my granddaughter) went out and picked up the litter left by the inconsiderate few on the May Bank Holiday Monday. When children do it, a lot more notice is taken.

Children also have a happy trick of embarrassing their parents. So, a second suggestion is targeted directly at the children. We put information about what happens to plastic litter (particularly the way it destroys the environment and kills wildlife) on signs with illustrations attractive to children. Hopefully, they will say to thoughtless parents "No – we mustn't leave that on the beach, it will float away and kill the dolphins."

Amelie and Nia made a difference. We all need to ask ourselves whose side we are on in dealing with the problem of litter.

David Alexander, Barry Island.

Cadoxton bowlers tackle Dinas Powys in cup

THE weather was reasonable for Cadoxton's Munro Cup meeting with Dinas Powis.

Derek Jeffries struggled at the start and trailed 7-1, before a comeback started on the eighth end.

A '5' on the 10th took the lead at 10-7. This success was held until the end with only three further losses during the remainder of the game.

Kelvin Chedgzoy's rink started with three losing singles, but a '4' took them into the lead.

In a close game the score reached 9-9 after 11 ends. The opponents, skipped by Gerry White, then increased their score to 13 but failed to improve on it, and four singles brought a level final score.

Don Kuhnell skipped his rink to an early 5-1 advantage. However, the opposition lengthened the jack and the results changed in their favour.

Only one further end during the next 11 ends went to the home side, although the losing ends were kept mainly to singles, which prevented counts on many occasions. Three shots during the final ends reduced the deficit.

The rink skipped by Howard Craven never managed to get started.

A '3' on the third was the only success during the first eight ends , leaving them 14-3 behind. Five shots scored in the following two ends brought some hope, but only one further success during the remaining ends left them well down at the finish.

Scores: E Heppenstall, A Ralph, S Clarke, D Kuhnell 11, N Williams, C Daw, J Rice, C Bates 16; J Stacey, E Davies I Heppenstall, D Jeffries 19, M Seaford, P Hanley, J Manfield, A Jones 12; A Prince, M Curtis, P Ellis, K Chedgzoy 13, T Gittings, G Leach, D Parker, G White 13; D Tuck, I Robertson, W Craven, H Craven 12, J Follow, R Greatrex, J Acklow, M Gershenson 32. Final score: 55-73.

There was no Saturday game to report this week. The Carruthers will continue with a trip to Wyndham BC this coming Saturday.

DK

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

The Shearan family at the event.

Ollie starts charity walk

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The AM added: "It was also great to start Step Out off with Ollie, who was so happy to do it. It showed that stroke is something which can effect someone, whatever their age. Ollie's an example of that, and he's fought back."

Margaret Street, director of the Stroke Association in Wales, said: "We're delighted with the turnout and money raised. A big thank you to the local community who really helped us to make this an event to remember and we're very grateful to everyone for their support."

To find out more about Step Out for Stroke visit www.stroke.org.uk/stepout.

New Mayoral team takes the helm at Porthcawl

The new Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Norah Clarke, with her consort Cllr Mike Clarke (on left), pictured with the new deputy mayor, Cllr Graham Walter, and his consort, Caroline Newman. Photograph by Jackie Barnes.

THE recent annual general meeting of Porthcawl Town Council, marked the end of Cllr Lorrie Desmond-Williams' year in office as town mayor.

The new Mayor of Porthcawl is Cllr Norah Clarke, who represents Nottage ward for town and borough councils.

She was elected unanimously and this is the second that she has served as mayor. She is the longest continuous serving councillor. Her consort for the year will be her husband, Cllr Michael Clarke

The new Deputy Mayor is Cllr Graham Walter, who represents Newton ward.

He was also elected unanimously and is the longest-serving councillor to not have been mayor. His consort for the year will be his partner, Caroline Newman. **GT**

'Hinkley Point mud needs more testing'

REFERRING to The GEM's recent article on the dumping of mud from Hinkley Point in the Bristol Channel, campaigners oppose the dumping not because of 'passion' but because of science.

EDF's references to bananas, radon and cosmic rays are unscientific. Potassium 40 (in the bananas), radon and cosmic rays are evenly distributed in body tissue and the radiation effects are well understood.

The radioactive particles which EDF refuses to look for in the mud are quite different.

The UN has published data showing enormous amounts of particulates from Hinkley Point. These are microscopic fragments of uranium oxide and probably plutonium which are small enough to inhale. From the lung they can travel anywhere in the body — to the lymph nodes, for example.

Such particles emit very short-range radiations all the time, continually hitting the cells within a few microns.

To treat this as an average all-body dose is like thinking you can safely keep your baby warm by tucking a soldering iron into her babygro.

The Government laboratory that tested mud samples did not use techniques capable of detecting uranium or plutonium.

This is why campaigners demand thorough testing.

Richard Bramhall.

PRISON ASSAULTS ON THE RISE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mr Dawson continued: "Despite a virtually permanent programme of prison building, overcrowding has been an unchanging reality of our prison system since 1994. Building prisons isn't the solution – breaking our addiction to imprisonment is."

Across the country, assaults have more than doubled in prisons over the last five years, and cases of self-harm have increased by 93 per cent.

Frances Crook, chief executive of the Howard League for Penal Reform, said: "This shameful rise in violence and self-injury is the direct result of policy decisions to allow the number of people behind bars to grow unchecked while starving prisons of resources.

"This is a national emergency, and the government must respond boldly and urgently."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Justice said: "Prison numbers can fluctuate, which is why we have robust plans in place to ensure we always have enough prison places for those sent to us by the courts.

"We will always ensure there are enough cells across the prison estate, and manage this in a way that gives taxpayers the best possible value for money.

"We are investing £1.3 billion to build modern new establishments, with up to 10,000 new prison places and better education facilities."

by Joseph Hook.

TONDU ARE TOPS IN ROTARY JUNIOR QUIZ

The winners receive their certificates from the Rotary president Wayne Morgan.

ON May 16, the annual Bridgend Rotary Junior Quiz took place at Litchard Primary School at an evening supported by staff, pupils, family, and friends.

Seven local primary schools took part. They were Litchard, Ffaldau, Brackla, Tondu, Pencoed, Tremains and Trelales.

Each team comprised a pupil from year 3, 4, 5 and 6.

In all, 28 pupils took to the stage to compete for the much coveted Winner's Cup.

The quality of the pupils' general knowledge was of a very high standard and the enthusiasm that they brought to the competition was appreciated by the audience on the evening. Every pupil who took part was awarded with a certificate.

After a close-fought competition the winning team was announced to be Tondu Primary School.

Congratulations to the team Oliver Maughan (year-3), Cariad Evans (year-4), Emily Williams (year-5), and Lillie-Eve Cronin (year-6).

The president of the Rotary Club of Bridgend, Wayne Morgan, presented the Cup to the winning Tondu Primary School team.

The Rotary Club of Bridgend would like to thank headteacher Mr Phillips and the governors of Litchard Primary School for their generous hospitality in hosting the competition.

A spokesperson said: "The Rotary Club of Bridgend Youth Opportunities Committee runs various activities aimed at recognising and celebrating the achievements of young people of all ages.

"These enable our youth to enjoy challenges, express themselves, and help them to realise their hopes, dreams and potential."

GH

Police head for 'county lines'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As part of the operation, licensing officers have been working closely with local pubs, hotels and the CF31 Bridgend Business Improvement District to provide information and training regarding the issues of county lines.

Officers on that Saturday used a passive drugs dog which was funded for the evening by CF31. The dog was used to patrol the railway station and queues outside licensed premises.

The drugs dog positively identified people carrying drugs and a drug itemiser machine was also used to swab the hands of those entering The Roof pub. Both led to arrests.

PC Dai Rees, licensing officer, said: "This has been a successful operation which has led to a number of arrests for serious drug offences.

"The operation was about making the night-time economy safer in Bridgend.

"Tackling county lines and the illegal drug supply on our streets is a priority for us as this kind of criminal activity has a hugely detrimental impact on our communities.

"I would encourage anyone with concerns relating to drug supply in their neighbourhood to contact police immediately."

To report any concerns, call the police on 101.

Bridgend Quiz League teasers

HERE are this week's teasers from the Bridgend Quiz League:

1. Of which European city is Piraeus the port?

2. How many sides has a dodecagon?

3. What is another name for the mountain ash tree?

SK

Answers:
1. Athens.
2. 12.
3. The Rowan tree.

Girls can join new Boys' Brigade company

THE launch of the newly formed 1st Nottage Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association Company will take place at the Old School Room of Nottage General Baptist & Unitarian Chapel on Ty Canol in Nottage village on Friday, June 15.

The parade nights will be between 5pm and 6pm each Friday, and will initially be aimed at the 'Anchor' (5-8 year olds) and 'Junior' (8-11 year olds) sections of the organisation, and will be open to both boys and girls.

To pay for the cost of the hall and materials for children's activities, weekly subscriptions will be £2 per child, although additional children from the same family who attend would only pay £1. However, in order to see if the BB is something children feel they would like to be part of: the first week will be subscription free.

It is organised by the Rev Lewis Rees, who said: "If you feel that a child in your care would benefit from being part of one of the largest youth groups in the United Kingdom, then we would be delighted to welcome you to our opening night.

"We are also seeking adult volunteers, who are the backbone of any such organisation, who feel they have something to offer in developing our young people.

"Therefore, should you feel you can lend a hand, even occasionally, then we would be delighted to speak to you."

Got a story?
Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Penarth cafe is on the market

BUSINESS property adviser, Christie & Co has been instructed to market the leasehold interest for the Crazy Café in Penarth.

On the ground floor of a 'mixed-use development' which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment, the cafe is on one of the main retail parades overlooking Penarth Pier and the Bristol Channel.

The Crazy Café was set up by Mr Hayward who is looking for a tenant and owner operator to take the business on and move it forward.

He said: "We have had an excellent first year in the café and have established it as one of the best available in Wales with its food and its position.

"Our in-house bakery is an unusual feature. The café ideally needs an experienced couple to take the venture forward."

Corrina Jones, of the agents, said: "The independent restaurant and café trade in South Wales is growing, with customers looking for high quality, fresh food offering in bespoke settings."

EA

U3A learns about female war artists

THE speaker for the May meeting of Barry U3A, Rosemary Chaloner, started by saying that the three words 'women war artists' were not normally seen together. This was not for the want of trying.

Many women in both the first and second World Wars attempted to get permission to 'go to the front', but this was normally denied.

However, women throughout the ages have always attempted to portray war in their art, such as the women who created the Bayeux Tapestry of the Norman invasion of Britain in 1066.

Around 1800, Lady Elizabeth Butler created paintings drawn from articles she had read in the papers, accounts of the Napoleonic Wars and the battle of Rorke's Drift [1879], but these paintings were rather romanticised.

By the time of World War One, women were actually being commissioned to paint war scenes of one kind or another. As most women could not get permission to go to the front, much of their art is of the 'home front' variety.

Scenes of women working in factories such as Anna Airy's painting of 'An Aircraft Assembly Shop at Hendon' and Clare Atwood's 'On Leave,' showing exhausted troops resting. One artist, Margaret Lindsay Williams, lived in Barry and painted Welsh soldiers.

Some of the World War Two paintings became famous as propaganda such as Dame Laura Knight's picture of 'Corporal Daphne Pearson' and 'Ruby Loftus Screwing a Breech Ring'.

A few female artists did manage to get to the front, usually serving as nurses and ambulance drivers and therefore their paintings could actually show the frontline.

Olive Mudie Cooke was one such artist and one of her pictures was 'In an Ambulance, a VAD lighting a cigarette' for the wounded soldier.

In the 1980s Linda Kitson actually managed to get to the front in the Falklands War as an artist where she did over 400 sketches, 60 of which are in the Imperial War Museum.

Paintings were not the only art; there were also photographers. Olive Edis was only allowed to go to the front after World War One, so in 1919, she took photographs of the Queen Mary Auxillary Corp welding.

Another photographer, Christina Broom, took homefront photos of soldiers leaving from Waterloo, amongst many others.

There were also sculptresses commissioned to decorate memorials after the war.

If you are no longer in full time employment or raising a family, then you are in your third age and new members are welcome to come along to meetings. The next one is on Monday, June 4 at 2pm in Bethel Baptist Church Hall at Harbour Road on the roundabout in Park Crescent.

Call Christine on 01446 701537 for further information.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

It's just fascinating at Samantha B's

TO celebrate the royal wedding, Samantha B held a competition for ladies – wearing a hat or fascinator –to call in.

We were delighted that a steady flow of ladies called in looking resplendent in their hats and outfits.

One lucky lady, Judith, had her photo taken with Prince Harry before he went on to the festivities (also known as Judith's husband Ross).

All the names of the entrants were put in a hat and the winner was drawn earlier this week.

Sam would like to thank you all for playing along and joining in the fun.

SB

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ST ATHAN

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• Fantastic Views • Popular Village

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• Modern Fitted Kitchen
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April Cottage, Llanblethian

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• Three/Two Bedroom Detached
• Two Luxury Bathrooms
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Waterton House, Brocastle

NEW PRICE

• Unique, Spacious and Extended
• Semi Detached
• Four Bedrooms
• Two Reception Rooms • Feature Stovax Multi Fuel Burner
• Modern Fitted Bathrooms • ½ acre Plot • Three Outbuildings

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• Traditional Detached Property
• Four Double Bedrooms
• Two Bathrooms • Delightful Village Location
• Lovely Wide Ranging Views • Double Glazing
• Summer House • Garage

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St Bleddians Close, Cowbridge

• Town Centre Location
• Four Bedrooms
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All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

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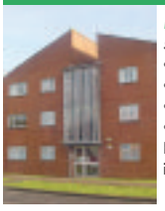

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Rent **£93.18** per week inc alarm

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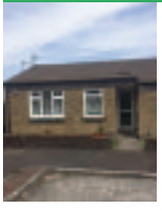

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- One bed bungalow
- Level Access Shower
- Community Alarm
- Water meter

Rent **£102.18** per week inc alarm

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H4U reference 233891
- Three bed house

Rent **£118.56** per week inc water

MAIN STREET, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 252500
55+ Preference given to applicants with a medical priority
- One bed flat
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- Water meter
- Level Access Shower

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H4U reference 221458
40+
- One bed flat
- First floor

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H4U reference 1011672
55+ (50 with medical need)
- One bed flat
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H4U reference 1046146
- Three bed flat
- First floor (no lift)

Rent **£111.47** per week

HANOVER COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 166725
55+ (50 with medical need)
- Two bed flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower

Rent **£111.17** per week

ARTHUR DAVIS COURT, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 947129
55+
- Bedsit
- First floor (no lift)
- Independent living officer

Rent **£117.00** per week inc service charge

POETSFIELD CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 166828
Pref to apps with a medical priority
- Three bed house
- Stairlift
- Level access Shower

Rent **£108.01** per week inc service charge

HERITAGE DRIVE, BARRY

H4U reference 1035309
- Two bed house

Rent **£100.77** per week including service charge

The deadline for the re-registration has now closed. However, there is a further opportunity for those who have not yet completed the form, to do so and return to the offices by 25th June 2018.

You will need to complete the slip and return it to the Civic Offices. Failure to do this will result in your application being cancelled.

Homes4U Application Process Now Online

Registration for the Homes4U scheme in now online, making it even easier for residents to sign up

Residents will now need to register for Homes4U via a new online application form. This new form replaces the previous paper version.

As always our team will be on hand to offer support and guidance for residents completing the new online form and answer any other queries customers may have.

Those who are unable to access the online form will need to contact the Homes4U administration team to request an alternative version.

Please Note: Paper forms will only be issued in exceptional circumstances.

Homes4u feedback is available on the Vale of Glamorgan website. If you are unable to access this, please contact us.

Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available immediately.

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You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.
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All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

Hafod newydd

Athletic youth beaten in final

ABOVE: Caine Wollerton crosses the line – only to be held up, and RIGHT: Will Barraclough gets the try. ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANNON.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 44

Desperately trying to get back in the game, the Athletic were largely pinned inside their own half and found themselves isolated at breakdowns. They conceded two further penalties which Smith converted to give his side a deserved victory.

The game marked the end of a three-year youth coaching tenure for head coach Lee Grabham and two seasons for assistants Kevin Gamble and Keith Hobby, while new coaches this season, Paul Obbard and Mike Groom, came up with last season's under-16s side to coach the Rags. Paul will remain as a youth team coach.

It is proposed the youth will join the seniors in training next season to familiarise themselves with senior play patterns in readiness for taking the next step in their rugby careers.

Lee has been coaching the senior youth players for 13 years since under-7s. Kevin and Keith have been involved for 12 and 10 years respectively.

Lee started coaching the youth jointly along with his under-16 side aided by a fellow Athletic stalwart John Doherty. John stayed two seasons.

Kevin and Keith followed their boys into youth two seasons ago. Lee is also grateful to Steve Bassett, who has been a great physio throughout Lee's 13 years and other match day helpers, particularly Martin Willis.

The trio of long-term coaches can be well pleased with overseeing one of the best periods for Athletic youth rugby since the youth team was formed in 1976.

A Rags (Athletic second youth team) reached the final of the Welsh Bowl in their first year. The team won the District Cup, and for the past two seasons the first youth XV have won the Ospreys Youth A League.

Last season's side won the National League Cup final and were beaten finalists this season.

Seven of last season's youth are now first XV squad members. Two of this season's players – captain Joe Grabham and Caine Woolerton – have been awarded Ospreys development contracts. Well done and thanks Lee, Kevin and Keith.

You have etched yourselves into Athletic youth history with your coaching success and firmly put the Athletic youth team on the Welsh rugby map.

Please note the joint senior and youth presentation night is at the Heronston Hotel on Saturday, June 2 – details on the Bridgend Athletic websites.

ADRIAN BURT

ABOVE: Sean Williams heads Llantwit Major's second goal, while RIGHT: Anthony Rawlings rounds the keeper to score their third of the afternoon as they secured promotion.

Rampant Llantwit Major secure promotion with emphatic win!

LLANTWIT MAJOR AFC travelled to AFC Llwydcoed (Aberdare) knowing that only one point was required to ensure promotion to Division One of the Welsh League.

On a hot day, with a hard surface and an uneven bounce, Llantwit found it hard to adjust to the conditions at first.

However, they had their first opportunity to open the scoring when a ball over the top of the Llwydcoed defence led to the Llwydcoed keeper just managing to beat Anthony Rawlings to the ball, but fortunately for him his clearance rebounded against Anthony and went wide.

It was not until the half-hour mark that Llantwit had another chance to score when a headed clearance out of defence from a Llantwit throw in was picked up by Rob Jones from around eight yards out, but he shot wide.

Five minutes later, Llantwit managed to break the deadlock when a through ball over the top of the Llwydcoed defence once again brought its just reward when the ball was met by Sam Snaith, who coolly lobbed the oncoming keeper to score.

Llantwit continued to apply the pressure and another opportunity fell to Rob Jones to get Llantwit's second goal. Again it was young Snaith who created the chance when he picked up the ball in the Llwydcoed goal area and the keeper could only palm his shot away to Rob who, from not far out, saw his shot hit the far post to be cleared away.

So, half time arrived with Llantwit leading 1-0.

Llwydcoed started the second half eager to apply some pressure to find an equaliser but their shots were just wide of the Llantwit goal and Jack Lansdown was not really called upon to make a save.

After soaking up their opponents' pressure, it was Llantwit's turn to apply pressure of their own when, from a long throw-in taken by Nathan Jones on the edge of the Llwydcoed goal area, Sean Williams flicked a header on to see the Llwydcoed keeper make a fine save to tip the ball over the bar for a corner.

From the corner kick, again taken by Nathan, Sean Williams had his reward when he headed home to score Llantwit's second goal.

Ten minutes later Llantwit scored a third when a mix-up by a defender led to him being tackled by Anthony Rawlings, who drove in on goal and dribbled past the oncoming keeper to score.

It was now all Llantwit as they continued to apply the pressure and three minutes later they scored their fourth when Jonathan Fletcher won the ball in midfield and produced a lovely through pass to the advancing Conner Goldsworthy, who, in turn, saw his shot pushed up into the air by the goalkeeper, and it was then headed home by Ben Cripps from two yards out.

The game was more than safe but Llantwit were hungry for more goals and in the 88th minute they scored their fifth when, from a free kick into the Llwydcoed goal taken by Conner Goldsworthy, Anthony Rawlings scored his second goal, when he was unmarked to head home from around 10 yards out.

In injury time Llantwit made it six when, from a breakout from defence and a through pass by Conner Goldsworthy, Ben Cripps drove in on goal to shoot past the advancing goalkeeper.

What a tremendous away win for Llantwit and credit must go to the players and management team as they achieved their objective of promotion to Division One of the Welsh League with one game left to play.

That game was on Tuesday evening against STM Sports, and a 5-2 victory ensured that Llantwit Major claimed the league title, amidst huge celebrations - see next week's GEM for a full match report.

DJ

Bridgend Bridge Club round-up

Pictured above, from left, are: David Newman, Norma Newman and WWBA chairman Gareth Jones.

BRIDGEND Bridge Club members Norma and David Newman won this year's West Wales Bridge Association John Isaac/Ann Dolan competion.

Bridgend Bridge Club members Kevin Maddox and Tony Haworth were second, and Irene Thomas and Jane Brook were third.

The latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

On Wednesday, May 16: First, Debbie and Simon Richards; second, John Beard and Liam Sheridan; third, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham. The winners on handicap were Gareth Jenkins and Mike Williams.

On Thursday, May 17: First, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett; second, Paul Lyne and Barry Collins; third, Chris Rawlings and John Henson. The winners on handicap were Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett.

The John Raymond Transport Cup teams competition was played on Friday, May 18.

Scores: First, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner, and Andy Robertshaw and Irene Wickham; second, Dave Reed and Jim Hume, and John Beard and Tony Haworth; third, Mike Best and Kevin Maddox, and Gareth Jenkins and Paul Lyne.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall.

Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start, it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

Lessons for beginners are being run by Steve Burgoyne – please contact Steve for further details on his number below.

For further information about the lessons and any other of the club activities please contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

GJ

Willey too wily for Celtic

MAESTEG CELTIC came to Cowbridge with a misson to return to the Llynfi Valley with a win to consolidate their challenge to win the Dan Radcliffe Cup.

However, they were sent homewards to think again by the Cowbridge First XI that were victorious by eight wickets.

Back in the 1950s and 60s, the Celtic were a cricketing power.

Champions of the SWCA on a number of occasions. County players, including most recently John Hopkins, were produced as a matter of course and the club was something of a model in terms of development.

More recently the Celtic and Cowbridge have both been yearning for a return to a status both clubs believe they should hold. This has resulted in some rare old battles.

However, Saturday was not one of these.

The Celtic skipper Gareth Hopkins won the toss and decided to bat. At 63-3, it seemed things were proceeding in an unexceptional but solid fashion and the visitors must have been eyeing a useful total.

Then the Cowbridge pacemen, Brad Evans (1-21) and Sam Routledge (2-28), were withdrawn from the attack by the shrewd skipper, Christopher E Willey.

The change turned the game on its head as the sagacious Nick Wood proceeded to take 4-19 with his off breaks and in no time the Maesteg hopes had crashed to ruins.

Sam Russell and Tom Williams also picked up wickets as the innings closed on 83 all out.

Trying to defend such a paltry score would have been difficult, whoever was trying to defend it.

The only real respite afforded by the home side to the visitors was the dropping down the order of Ben Wright to let some others get a knock.

However the relief was short-lived as the rock, Tom Merilaht, continued his own good form with a carefree 45 not out and with 19 from Chris E Willey and 24 not out from Brad Evans, the inevitable victory was completed before the bar was open.

That issue was soon put right and the lads settled into a lengthy de-brief.

It was a comprehensive win and it put Cowbridge in second place. Gorseinon lead with 69, Cowbridge have 67 and Gowerton 65. The next clutch of clubs are a win behind.

As it is just one up to the Premier League, every point is important even at this early stage.

JRB

Porthcawl Bridge Club latest news

TO celebrate Harry and Meghan's wedding, the club held a 'Royal Afternoon Tea' event, professionally catered by Jane Morgan, who provided refreshments to match those at the Royal reception.

The afternoon's bridge was won by Maurice and Margaret.

Other results from the club are:

Saturday, May 5: First – John Beard and Tony Haworth; Second – Peter and Sandie Jenkins.

Thursday, May 10: First – Dil and Marian Evans; Second – Janet Richards and Sue Anthony.

Saturday, May 12: First – Dil and Marian Evans; Second – Norma and Dave Newman.

Thursday, May 17: First – Connie Dick and Janet Richards; Second – Tony Haworth and Keith Davison.

Saturday, May 19, 'Royal Afternoon Tea': First – Maurice and Margaret; Second – Wendy Williams andConnie Dick.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre on Thursdays (6.45pm-9.45pm) and Saturdays (3pm-6pm), visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary, Trish, on 01656 785794.

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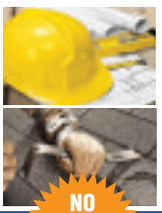

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Family Notices

MALLETT
Kathleen Mary

Peacefully on the 11th May 2018 at Springbank Nursing Home following a determined battle with dementia, Kath, aged 83 years, of Broadway, Cowbridge. Beloved wife of the late Frederick, much loved mother of Patrick and the late Andrew, mother-in-law of Byron. Dearly loved grandmother of Charmaine and great grandmother of Maddison and Jacob.

At peace now and greatly missed by all who knew her.

Please join us to celebrate Kath's life at St Cadoc's Church, Cowbridge at 1pm on Friday, 1st June, followed by committal at The Limes Cemetery. Flowers welcomed and black optional.

Resting at Thomas Brothers, St Brides Major.

HUXTER
Shirley May

After a long illness, Shirley passed away peacefully on 15th May at Llandough Hospital surrounded by her loving family. Devoted wife of the late Gordon and much loved mum of Julie and Mandy. An adored nanna of Cariad, Bethany and Conor, also a loving mother-in-law of Tim and Mike.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a celebration of her life at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Barry on Friday, 1st June at 11.45am, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Ben Hartery, contact number 01446 407962.

EDWARDS
Georgina Louisa

Suddenly, but peacefully, on Friday, 11th May at her home in Llantwit Major. Beloved wife of the late Gwynne, much loved mother of Geoff, dear mother-in-law of Janet, loving grandmother to James and Sarah and great grandmother to Paige.

Gina will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, 29th May, service and cremation 1.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie c/o the funeral director.

CRANE
Elizabeth Dorothea

Peacefully on the 13th May at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Elizabeth Dorothea of St Mary Church. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth John, much loved mother and grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday, 31st May, service 4pm at All Saints Church, Barry, followed by cremation 5pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

No flowers by request.

COLLINS
Olive Catherine

Peacefully on Friday, 11th May at Holme Towers, Olive, beloved wife of the late John, loving mum of Jason, dear mother-in-law of Vicki. Loving nannie of Molly and Lyla, much loved by all her brothers and sisters.

Olive will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. To be received into Our Lady & St Illtyd's Roman Catholic Church, Llantwit Major at 4pm on Tuesday, 29th May.

Funeral Wednesday, 30th May, service 12.30pm, followed by cremation 2pm at Cardiff & Vale Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie c/o the funeral director.

In Memory

DYKE
Philip

29th May

No birthday card today, just precious memories.
Love Always
Shona *xxx*

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES
CAROLE COLE

26th May 1946

Birthday memories of a dear wife, thinking of you always and always in my heart.
Love Tony *xxx*

ANDREWS
Shaun Glyn

Happy Heavenly Birthday on 26th May to my lovely son
Shaun Glyn Andrews

God has you in his keeping and we have you in our hearts.

Love mum, your sister Laura, your children Nikita and Kade and nephew Diego Che *x*

In Memory

WILLIAMS
Dwayne 'Mole'

27th May

Ours is just a simple prayer,
God bless and keep you in his care.
Love Mum, Dad, Hayley & Brian, Alison & Tony.

Acknowledgements

GULLETT
Roger James

The family would like to thank everyone who attended and were involved with organising the services for Roger.

We were overwhelmed by the generous donations to the Marie Curie 'Hospice at Home' team.

Grateful thanks to the doctors and nurses at Eryl Surgery and to the St Illtud's Church clergy.

ANDREWS
Anthony John (Tony)

Muriel and family would like to thank everyone for the cards and flowers received together with the donations to the Alzheimer's Society in memory of Tony. Also, thank you for the kindness and support given to all of us during Tony's long illness.

Birth

Congratulations
Jotham & Helene
on the birth of
Balin Panos Glyn
FRANCIS
on Thursday 17th May 2018
With much love from Mum & Dad.
Nathan, Hannah, Libby, Eloise & Edward.
Tristan, Ning, Vincent, Talia, Sebastian & Benedict.
Aaron & Julia & Great Nanny Faith xxx

Thank You

90th Birthday Thank You

Mrs Jean Williams wishes to thank family, friends and neighbours for all the lovely cards and donations received. Donations totalling £575 were collected and are going to the Motor Neurone Disease Charity in memory of my twin brother Graham Rogers.

Birthday celebrations took place on Sunday, 6th May at Brynhill Golf Club, Barry.

Thank you to everyone involved.

Birthdays

Ellie Gunney will be 14 on the 29th May.
Molly Gunney will be 16 on the 1st June.
Wishing them both a special birthday. We are so proud of you. Love you both so much...
Mum & Dad xxx

Happy
18th Birthday
Curtis Tumilty
18
on 29th May
Have a fantastic day!
Lots of love Nanny Hazel & Bampy Roy xxx

Visit **The GEM** online

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Please contact Mr Colin Smith on 01446 781375 or email LlancarfanPS@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk for further information and an application pack.

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Public Notices

VALERIE SHANNON (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Brocastle Manor Care Home Brocastle Estate Ewenny Bridgend formerly of 74 Millfied Drive Cowbridge, who died on 23/10/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 03/08/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
JPC SOLICITORS
60 Eastgate
Cowbridge CF71 7AB T5309913

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVE THAT An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENCE.**
To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below.
Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.
Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:- Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB
NAME OF APPLICANT: Lee Charles Ralph
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: Dog's Window Brewery, 8 Nant-Yr-Adar, Bridgend, CF31 4TY
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES (1): Sale of alcohol off sales only Monday - Sunday 11.00 - 19.00
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 11th June 2018, for 28 consecutive days.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.
(1) This must include details of activities, type of entertainment and appropriate days and times.

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Mini Cooper Black 2003
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RAMBLERS ENJOY THE CLIFFTOPS AT PENARTH

ON a sunny, late spring evening, a group of eight walkers met their leader Sue J from Penarth and District Ramblers in the car park at Penarth clifftop and, heading along pavements, made their way to the old disused railway line which is now a pedestrian and cycle track.

Heading down through Cosmeston Drive and crossing Lavernock Road to enter Cosmeston Country Park, the evening light was shimmering on the still water of the eastern lake.

Following the boardwalk through the reed beds and joining Mile Road to pass the medieval village, painted golden by the sunshine, and re-crossing Lavernock Road, a pavement along St Mary's Well Bay Road led them down to The Bay Caravan Park, where they joined the Wales Coast Path.

Walking around the edges of cropped fields brought them across a wooden footbridge and into the western end of Lavernock Nature Reserve with its grand views across St Mary's Well Bay towards Sully Island.

Heading through the centre of the reserve through the derelict remains of the World War 2 anti-aircraft gun battery and emerging onto Fort Road, whose name commemorates the original fort built during the Victorian era, tramping south they reached St Lawrence Church.

On the outer wall of the churchyard is a plaque which commemorates the fact that in 1897 Marconi and his friend George Kemp successfully sent the first radio signal across open water to Flat Holm and then to Brean Down in Somerset.

Following the cliff path eastwards above Ranny Bay to return to their start there were great views, all still bathed in sunshine of Flat and Steep Holm, up the Severn Estuary towards the Severn Bridge and across to Weston-Super-Mare and Brean Down, as well as Penarth Pier and promenade with Cardiff Bay in the background.

On May 24, meet 6.30pm at Penarth clifftop car park for a 3.5-mile easy walk taking in the cliff walk, parks, St Augustine's Church and Joseph Parry's grave; contact Louise on 07780 672 474.

On May 26, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 14-mile moderate walk taking in Monmouth, Offa's Dyke and the River Wye; contact John R on 029 2070 8294.

On May 31, meet 6.30pm at Dinas Powys village square for a 4.5-mile moderate walk, taking in Michaelston-le-Pit and the Ice House; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

To follow the group log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 20 25 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club results

THE latest news and results from the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club are as follows:

Congratulations to Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, the new club champions for 2018.

The competition was held over three consecutive weeks in April and the best two out of three scores were counted. The runners-up were Steve Burgoyne and John Evans.

Results for May 14: first, John Evans and Steve Burgoyne 63.96 per cent; second, Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock 63.13 per cent; third, John Raymond and Alan Lewis 56.25 per cent.

Results for May 21: first, Liam Sheridan and Glenda Roberts 68.52 per cent; second, Anne Hughes and Trish Roe 59.03 per cent; third, Rob Foreman and Alan Heath 58.59 per cent.

LE

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email
editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk
or call 01446 774484

Locals try their hand at sailing on club's open day

ON Saturday, Sully Sailing Club hosted an Open Day, as part of the Royal Yachting Association's 'Push the Boat Out' campaign.

While very light winds made the sailing difficult, the sunny weather meant that those who ventured afloat had a great time and were ready to enjoy the barbecue on their return ashore.

Club volunteers took nearly 50 adults and children afloat and some of them will be returning to take part in the club's training programme on Wednesday evenings before progressing to club racing on a Sunday.

On Sunday morning members were back at the club for the two races scheduled as part of the Early Bird Series, and this time the light winds were much less welcome.

One race was completed over the high tide period but as the ebb set in it became impossible to make progress against the increasing flow of water and the second race was abandoned.

The winner of the completed race was Nicola Sutton in a Topaz Uno Race from Bob Laing in a Laser while Neil Brookes was third.

Nigel Vick

Housing association raises cash for Alzheimer's Society

Hafod staff display fundraising total of £5,155 for the Alzheimer's Society.

STAFF from Vale housing and care provider Hafod, have been raising funds over the past year for their chosen charity, the Alzheimer's Society.

The fundraising team organised events including a Christmas raffle, bake sales, office bingo, dress down days, afternoon tea and the very popular 'senior managers' day out' as well as staff joining memory walks organised by the Alzheimer's Society, resulting in a grand total of £5,155.

A member of Hafod's fundraising team, Nerys Eldridge, said: "The Alzheimer's Society is a cause close to our hearts as an increasing number of our tenants, residents and loved suffer from dementia.

"We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our colleagues, service users and contractors so thank you to everyone who helped us. We couldn't have done it with you.

"Hafod has over 250 service users who suffer from dementia within our care services alone. Throughout the last year we have worked with the Alzheimer's Society to provide training to over 800 staff via the 'Dementia Friends' initiative with over 350 members of staff registering as Dementia Friends."

Cheryl George, community fundraiser, said: "Alzheimer's Society Cymru is here for anyone affected by dementia. We provide information and support, improve care, fund research, and create lasting change for people affected by dementia.

"The £5,155 raised will go directly to helping people living with dementia today as well as helping us to fund vital research for tomorrow. A huge thank you to everyone at Hafod."

The Alzheimer's Society work across England, Wales and Northern Ireland offering information, care and support to people with dementia, their families, friends and carers. They also invest in research into dementia care, cause, cure and prevention as well as campaigning to raise awareness of dementia.

Valeways' Women's Walk

THE Mayor of Barry, Cllr Janice Charles, attended Valeways Famous Women's Walk at the Knap/Porthkerry in Barry on May 18 and also attended the Cemetery Walk organised by Cllr Nic Hodges on May 20.

The Mayor would like to thank both Valeways and Cllr Nic Hodges for a thoroughly enjoyable experience and walk and for providing an interesting historical insight into Famous Women and the history provided by Cllr Nic Hodges at Barry Cemetery.

Llantwit Major AFC reserves lift the cup!

AFTER cup disappointment against St Athan, Llantwit Major AFC reserves had another cup final opportunity to right that wrong with Rhoose standing in their way.

The Major reshuffled the pack and had starts for Lewis Brown, Ryan Malton and Stephen Phillips. The reserve side started the game the better and kept the ball from Rhoose, who were happy to conceded the majority of possession early on.

Attacks from Llantwit became more and more dangerous as forwards Max Morgan, Stephen Phillips and Josh Morgan all came close with the Rhoose back line and keeper standing tall.

It wasn't long until the deadlock was finally broken as a floated L Brown corner met the commanding captain Phill Grafton's head for his sixth goal of the season.

After the goal, Rhoose started to attack Llantwit's defence which saw the back four of Wrigley, Tracey, Cutter and Malton all on form to keep their side in the lead, while keeper Carl Roberts held on to everything that came to him to relieve his team of pressure.

The second half saw Llantwit attack with more intent as Josh Morgan found plenty of space on the left to isolate his opposing number.

Josh finally saw his efforts contribute to a goal as his shot was saved but the ball fell into Phillips' path for him tap it in from six yards.

Two goals became three when the in-form Josh finally scored as he breezed past two defenders to slide it past the keeper.

Colm Garrett was introduced to the game and immediately made an impact, and his goal sealed the 4-0 win for the Major with a solid and fluid team performance.

Chris Vinson and Ryan Malton worked tirelessly throughout the game but it was Lee Tracey who won man of the match, hardly putting a foot wrong in defence.

With Llantwit beating BRT in the league, this cup victory saw them vlaim the double, which is a huge achievement for a side put together with lots of new players.

The last three league games ended with Llantwit defeating Glennbrook 12-2, BV 12-0 and Vale Madrid 10-0, resulting in a record of 18 games and 18 wins, with over 100 goals scored.

A truly great season on and off the pitch for the reserves and with the first team achieving promotion and enjoying success, a winning mentality has developed within the club.

Thank you all who contributed.

JT

Local boxers impress at event

ON Friday, May 18, Llantwit Major Amateur Boxing Club took five boxers to compete in Nantymoel ABC's club show in Sarn Social Club.

First to box was Tom Collins. Tom is 10 years old and has fantastic potential. He faced a more experienced and heavier opponent, William Day of Colcot ABC, in a three one-minute round contest.

Tom, in the red corner, started the first round well, using his jab to good effect. William showed the weight difference and forced Tom to think fast and use his footwork to get out of the way of some big shots.

The bout was evenly contested and could have gone to either boxer. However, the judges saw William as the winner.

The club is very impressed with Tom's attitude and performances this season.

Next to box was Theo Davies, 14 years old and in his first bout. Theo was calm and showed no nerves going into the contest.

He stuck to the game plan and kept things nice and simple in the first round; his opponent Jack Elias of Neath Melyn ABC was strong and landed with a right hand early in the first round.

Theo turned up the tempo towards the final bell, and landing a flurry of shots, forcing the referee to give a standing eight count.

The second round was much the same, with Theo dominating and overpowering his opponent, giving him a second standing eight count in the second round.

In between rounds, Theo was calm and composed and listened well to instructions. After a strong start to the third round from the Neath boxer, Theo found an opening and delivered the final blows of the round when the referee stepped in and stopped the contest.

The next bout for Llantwit saw Mason Evans take to the ring in an exhibition bout with current Welsh junior champion Niall Bacon, boxing for Nantymoel ABC.

Evans of Llantwit Major was strong and made great use of his feet coming in and finding shots from different angles.

This was a bout for the boxing purists, and one everyone, including Mason and Niall, enjoyed.

At 85kg, Jac Bastida was next to take to the ring and despite showing huge amounts of heart, guts and determination he was unable to impact the fight enough to win the judges over.

Finally, we saw Seb Harris step in the ring for his first bout; albeit another exhibition, this heavyweight contest was a pleasure to watch.

Seb started the contest well and stuck to his jab and rear hand, catching his opponent and home boxer, Gavin Duckfield of Nantymoel ABC with some well-timed and accurate punches.

The second round was much the same, with Seb setting the tone and dominating the fight, until a big left hook caught Seb square on the jaw and the referee gave a standing eight count.

Seb was shaken by this shot, but kept his composure and saw the round through. The third round saw Duckfield turn up the tempo early on and Seb, still regaining his legs from the shot landed in the second round, did well to avoid another.

It didn't take long in the third round for Seb to find his feet again and started to show the dominance he displayed in the first round.

A fantastic night for boxing, and a great evening for Llantwit Major boxing club.

We are working with Llantwit Major football club for an event taking place on June 9 at Frampton Fields.

A number of members of the football club have been training hard over the last eight weeks and are ready to put on a show, in what promises to be a fantastic family day out in Llantwit Major.

Tickets are available from Cafe Unwind and SOTA tattoo shop in Llantwit Major, and also available through the football club and boxing club.

KJ

Cowbridge Bowls Club news

The ladies teams, again, had a good week winning both of their games. The men also played two games and won both.

On Tuesday, playing in a Cowbridge Shield match, the ladies entertained Porthcawl Sandpipers, winning on all three rinks.

Rink scores: Dorothy Pritchard, Jan Lewis, Kay Edwards and Pat Holdsworth 15-13; Diane Purnell, Mary Dowdle, Joy Woolford and Phyllis Price 13-9; Janet Morton, Shirley Dunsworth, Lynda Wilson and Helana Snelling 30-11. Match score: Cowbridge 58, Porthcawl Sandpipers 33.

For their Thursday afternoon league game the Lladies were away to Pengelli and came home with 10 points after wins on all three rinks.

This was an exceptional performance by our ladies, confirming their improvement in recent years.

Rink scores: Tina Payne, Sylvia Hole, Elaine Dobie and Joy Woolford 17-9; Dorothy Pritchard, Corrie Bufton, Phyllis Price and Kay Edwards 19-11; Sandra Collin, Pat Holdsworth, Jan Lewis and Lynda Wilson 13-10. Match score: Cowbridge 49, Pengelli 30.

The men's midweek game was at home in the Munro Cup to Barry Central.

An experienced Cowbridge team overwhelmed Barry with wins on all four rinks.

Rink scores: Terry Dunsworth, Guy Morton, Terry Foley and Bob Penn 18-13; John Jones, Rob Lewis, Clive Pritchard and Dennis Snelling 25-8; Steve Dodsworth, Ron Dobie, Bryan Hole and Norman Wilkinson 33-8; Gerry Lloyd, John Wathes, Alan Wallace and Colin Wilson 33-6. Match score: Cowbridge 109, Barry Central 35.

Last Saturday it was a wonderful day for a wedding, the FA Cup final and for a game of bowls.

Playing in a Carruthers Shield match Cowbridge hosted Bridgend Municipal men's team.

In the early stages of the match the Bridgend team were looking good.

Bob Penn's team were 4-0 down after four ends but drew level on the sixth end and never lost the lead, winning 28-15.

Dennis Snelling's rink took a lead on the first end and never lost it, winning 25-16.

Colin Wilson's rink held level until the sixth end but by the 10th end they were 10 shots adrift - but not out. They took the lead on the 18th end and won 25-19.

Norman Wilkinson's rink were 5-13 down on end 12 and 6-15 down on end 14 but fought back with a five on the last end, losing 20-22.

Rink scores: Gerry Lloyd, Stan Harding, Clive Pritchard and Bob Penn 28-15; Bryan Williams, John Wathes, Tony Lewis and Denniis Snelling 25-16; Mansel Davey, John Jones, John Trott and Colin Wilson 25-19; Terry Dunsworth, Bryan Hole, Steve Close and Norman Wilkinson 20-22.Final score: Cowbridge 98, Bridgend 72.

A big thankyou to Cowbridge ladies who laid on a superb tea and for sorting out the raffle (captain Bob Penn forgot!).

Also thanks to Len Taylor for looking after the bar.

MB

Charity boxing event

THE Rhys Gould Memorial Fund boxing event will take place on June 9 at Llantwit Major Football Club, Frampton Playing Fields' first team pitch.

Gates open at 12 noon and the first bell is at 2pm.

Tickets are available from SOTA TATTOO and Llantwit Major Football Club, with remaining tickets being sold on the gate, £10 per adult, £5 per child with a family ticket of two adults and two children £25.

All proceeds go to the Rhys Gould Memorial Fund.

Local youngsters star at Cardiff Arms Park!

WITH their club team Pentyrch RFC, Cowbridge year seven school boys George Greest, Sam Colsee and Samuel William Hale were victorious in the Landrover Cardiff Blues plate competition.

On a hot sunny Sunday in front of a packed south stand at the Cardiff Arms Park, Pentyrch under-12s, current Cardiff and Vale District champions, took on a very strong St Peters RFC in the final.

Big occasion nerves were evident but were soon calmed when Pentyrch took a 12 point lead midway through the first half.

Strong defending was needed to counter the St. Peters onslaught which finally broke through to pull back into the game, going into half-time 12 - 12.

The restart saw a very determined St Peters, but once again the Pentyrch defence held them up to make progress back into the St.Peters half.

The turning point in the game came when Pentyrch were awarded a penalty 20 metres out, which was brought forward to 10 metres after a St Peters infringement.

A quick-thinking Sion Davies saw an opportunity for a quick tap and go, and taking St Peters by surprise he scored a game-changing try that put Pentyrch back into the lead.

From this point on Pentyrch remained in front despite some valiant play from St Peters.

One more try sealed the game, taking Pentyrch to a deserved 22-12 victory.

An excited crowd cheered on the boys as they were awarded the trophy and medals by British Lion and Welsh international Gethin Jenkins.

All in all, a fitting end to a very successful year for the year seven boys of Pentyrch RFC - Cardiff Blues Plate competition winners and Cardiff and Vale District Champions 2018.

PG

Heavy defeat for second team

COWBRIDGE Cricket Club seconds lost badly on Saturday against Drefach in Division Five of the South Wales Cricket League.

The writing was on the wall before a ball was bowled, as Cowbridge only had eight players and it was fortunate that they won the toss and batted, as it would have been even more painful otherwise.

As it was, the Broad Shoard club managed 125-6 in 40 overs, with David Gascoyne scoring 55 and Naveed Younas adding 34.

With huge gaps in the field and Cowbridge having to call on second string bowlers, Drefach needed only 16 of their allotted 40 overs to score the winning runs and the game was over by 4.45pm, although there was time for Jonty Webb and Isaac Owen to get a few wickets, while veteran David Webb took a fine diving catch.

Clearly the club could do with some more players - Hugh Williams, Sara Russell and family, Jonathan Smart, David Gascoyne and others have been putting a lot of effort into the junior section to bring through talent, but that can take time.

Meanwhile, it would be very handy if anyone who would like to play cricket would contact David Gascoyne on 07974 391749.

DG

On and Off The Turf with Brian Lee

RIDERS from the Vale were in good form again last weekend.

At the Golden Valley Hunt Point-To-Point at Bredwardine on Saturday, Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor, who recently celebrated his 16th birthday, won the opening hunt members' race on *Champione*, who came home 12 lengths ahead of the Byron Moorcroft-partnered *Benemeade*.

Then in the men's open race Connor Brace, also 16, riding his grandfather David Brace's *Pink Eyed Pedro*, finished three parts of a length ahead of *Green Winter*.

In the open maiden race, Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, riding *Free Scorpion*, the 6-4 favourite, scored by 20 lengths from *Round Robin*.

The ladies' open race was won by Keith Pritchard's *Watch The Birdie* who, under Hannah Lewis, won by five lengths from *Oh Toodles*.

Watch The Birdie is trained by Carlie Packwood at Pyle near Bridgend.

West Wales' Ben Jones took the restricted race on *Midnight Folie*.

Twenty-four hours later at the Carmarthenshire fixture at Trecoed, Byron Moorcroft won the men's open on *Spencer Moon* and the conditions race on *Ramble On*, which beat the odds-on *TheGirlFromMilan*.

The ladies' open race went to Anna Lewis and Tiger Rag who beat Isabel Williams' mount, the odds-on *Hold Court*.

Ben Jones had a double with *Get An Oscar* in the mares' maiden race and *Way Wild West* which won the restricted race.

Bradley Gibbs took the horses and geldings maiden on 9-2 chance *Buck Bravo* and *Bobby Thomas* won the hunt members' race on Padre Tito.

At Towcester on Monday, Aberthin's Tim Vaughan saddled the winner of the opening maiden hurdle with *Take Em Out*, which beat *In The PipeLine* by a nose.

EDWARD'S DOUBLE

Aberthin's Edward Vaughan, aged 10, followed up his winning double at the recent Tredegar Farmers Hunt Steeplechases by winning with the same two ponies at the Carmarthenshire Point-To-Point at Trecoed last Sunday.

Edward took the 148cms race on the prolific *Peateaoh* beating *Don't Tell Dai* (Jessica Llewellyn) and Miss Dolly (Harry Llewellyn) and in the 138cms race which was a match riding *Little Replacement* he finished ahead of *Milly,* who was partnered by Henry Pugh.

BRIAN LEE

Last-minute penalty ends Dinas Powys' season in an enthralling encounter

A HUMDINGER of a contest between Dinas Powys RFC and Heol-y-Cyw was enjoyed by a large crowd gathered in the sunshine as the Villagers finally bought their season to an end with a stunning last-minute 31-29 victory.

Dinas Powys were not in the lead during this contest until the final dramatic kick of the game, trailing after four minutes of the start until the dramatic conclusion.

Hosts Heol-y-Cyw, already relegated from the division, took to the field with a side brimming with players from the upper leagues, determined to finish their season on a high note.

The home side took the lead with a well worked converted try after four minutes, but the Villagers responded with a stunning try of their own following an elaborate set move that eventually saw fly half Ben White throw a long mis-pass to free left wing Duke Durham.

The Villagers were in generous mood and proceeded to gift two chances that the home side gratefully accepted, a clearance kick following the ball being passed back into the 22 metre area presented a lineout that was rolled over the tryline and within a further two minutes, a dropped pass was collected and a further try added.

The home side led by 21-7 with 25 minutes of the contest played and Dinas were in need of inspiration – and a score.

A solid scrum allowed White to kick a long cross-kick downfield giving the enthusiastic Durham the chance to show his pace; the kick was gathered by the home right wing but Durham was upon him, throwing him to the floor and ripping the ball at the same time.

The superb Sam Middlemiss was up in support and accepted the pass before crossing for the try, and with White adding the conversion the scorline was 21-14.

The enthusiasm and the understanding of the situation by Middlemiss was greatly appreciated by teamates and supporters, but the joy was shortlived as Heol-y-Cyw scored their fourth try in the left corner following an intricate threequarter move following a lineout.

Crucially, the difficult conversion was missed and at half-time Dinas Powys trailed by 26-14.

This was a high-quality, physical contest that was played in good spirit and excellently refereed by an official who was consistent and calming in his application of the laws of the game.

Team captain Tom Baister enthused his team for the final 40 minutes of the season and with scrum-half increasing the tempo of the contest at every opportunity, the Villagers started the second half strongly.

Powerful carries by Baister and No.8 Corey Imperatto drew the penalty from a rugged home defence, and although eminently kickable, a quick tap penalty was taken and White fed flanker Ryan Shallish, who sped between two defenders to score the Villagers' third try.

ABOVE: Action from the game.

With White adding the extra two points, the score advanced to 26-21.

The home side, urged on by their supporters, were relentless and only superb defence by second rows Gareth Williams and Rhys Gambold prevented them adding to their tally.

Indeed, the home side were soon in the process of scoring a try only for the wonderful Lewis Dunleavy to dislodge the ball as the player crossed the tryline.

The defence was so resolute that the home side decided to convert a penalty awarded rather than kick for a lineout and they advanced their lead to 29-21 with five minutes of the match remaining.

The Villagers scrum was dominant and with the forwards providing a consistent supply of ball, it allowed the enigmatic White to orchestrate the backline.

The dancing feet of centre Rhys Evans were instrumental in providing supporting scrum half Tom Davies to feed replacement backrower Lewys John to bulldoze over for the Villagers' fourth try of the afternoon and the conversion added by White saw the home side's lead reduced to one point with only two minutes remaining.

The restart was gathered and the relentless Baister carried the ball and his team forward; the ball was moved smoothly from player to player.

A sniping run from scrum half Davies breached the home defence and the covering tackler could not resist using his hand on the floor and the Villagers were awarded the penalty.

Ben White walked forward and called for the kicking tee – he stared at the posts that stood 40 metres in front of him and struck the ball. The home supporters raised a cheer as the ball appeared to be drifting left, but then it was the Dinas Powys contingent that cheered as the ball changed trajectory and veered right and split the posts to provide a dramatic victory.

The whistle was blown, the game was over, and the Villagers had gathered five league points to finish the league season with a total of 59 points following 11 victories, two draws and nine defeats in their first season in Division 1 following their promotion last season.

A highly-satisfying season concluded with a thrilling victory that ensured that Dinas Powys RFC had consolidated their position as the highest-positioned team in the Vale, achieved with local players as noted by captain Tom Baister after the game as he highlighted that 13 of the starting 15 players had attended St Cyres school.

Well done to all concerned with Dinas Powys RFC for providing so many memorable contests during the season. **HJ**

GOLFERS IMPRESS IN REGIONAL COMPETITION

LAST Monday saw five Special Olympics Cardiff & Vale golfers set off from their home club of St Andrews Major Golf Club for the Special Olympics West Midland regional golf competition held at Bicester Golf Club.

Monday afternoon was used for games and practice ready for the competition on Tuesday.

First to tee off were the 18-hole competitors in the group. Sam Lazenbury from Barry hit a great drive, while in the second group to tee off, James Savory from Barry, playing his first 18-hole competition, drove slightly to the right.

The two groups of 18-hole golfers were closely match ed throughout.

Then it was the turn of the nine hole golfers to tee off just after 11am, which included Gareth Lloyd and Mark Eveleigh, both from Barry, in the first group, followed by Adrian Abbott from Llantwit Major in the second group. These were also closely-fought rounds.

The results saw Sam Lazenbury receive a gold medal with James Savory winning the Division 2 and receiving a bronze medal overall in the 18-hole competition.

In the nine-hole competition, in Division 1, Gareth Lloyd earned silver and Mark Eveleigh bagged a bronze (this was decided on countback) and in Division 2 Adrian Abbott received the silver medal.

We must thank John Hastings, the golf professional, at St Andrews Major GC for coaching these golfers over the winter months.

He has certainly used his magic as this was the golfers' first outing on a course this year, and we would like to thank St Andrews Major GC for their continued support.

Pictured, left to right, are Sam Lazenbury, James Savory, Adrian Abbott, Gareth Lloyd and Mark Eveleigh.

JS

NFU golf day raises over £6,000 for Velindre charity

THE annual NFU Mutual Insurance Charity Golf Day was held last Friday at a sunny Southerndown Golf Club where 152 golfers helped to raise over £6,000 for the Velindre Hospital Cancer Care appeal fund.

With quality prizes donated by many generous sponsors, the day's individual and team competitions were keenly contested.

Gary Punter, with a personal best score of 45 stableford points, claimed first prize in the men's section with Richard Jeremy and Daryl Hamonda both with 37 points finishing in second and third place.

In the ladies individual competition former Llantrisant and Pontyclun lady champion Helen Calvert finished ahead of the field with a very impressive 37 points, with Jill Joseph on 35 points finishing runner-up.

In the team competition, where the best three scores per hole counted, Darrell Hamonda, John Peters, Richard Jeremy and Mark Hale representing Principality Plastics with 114 points finished in first place.

In second place were the Sinclair Audi team of Gary Punter, Terry Punter, Graham Jenkins and Lee Davies who scored 111 points.

Mark O'Sullivan, Tim Hanson, Neil Morgan and Mick O'Sullivan, representing M & C Civils, finished in third place with 108 points.

The ladies' winning team with 116 points comprised of Helen Calvert, Amy Watkins, Leslie Davies and Jill Joseph.

Special mention should be made of a team representing LDL Engineering who successfully defended the title for the best endeavour team.

Luke Sloan won the men's longest drive competition and a revitalised Sarah Morris hit the longest drive down the 11th hole to win the ladies' section. Nearest the pin on the par 3-holes was Andrew Hatcher on the fifth hole, Brian Jones on the seventh hole, Edward Lakin on the 10th hole and veteran Cowbridge resident Bryan Owen on the 14th hole.

Nick Golunski won the prize for being closest to the pin with his second shot to the 18th hole.

Edward Lakin completed a fine day by also collecting a bottle of whiskey when correctly guessing 192 balls would remain nestling in the many prickly gorse bushes associated with this venue.

Special mention also goes to event organiser Mrs Pam Harris.

Pam's superb organisational skills were highlighted at the prize presentation ceremony by Mr Larry Byrne, managing director of Club Choice Ireland Ltd, who commented the days event was one of the best he had attended during his travels throughout Europe.

T.McC

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

B A R R Y ATHLETIC are Vale of Glamorgan AFL Premier D i v i s i o n Champions.

It was a day of controversy in the Vale League on Saturday as Barry Athletic were crowned Premier Division Champions in bizarre fashion.

Coming into the weekend, leaders St Athan needed a win over title rivals FC Barry Belgrade to claim the title after Belgrade's dramatic collapse recently, where they lost their last three games.

However, Belgrade could not field a side and withdrew from the league, thus seeing their record expunged.

St Athan consequently lost the four points gained from games against Belgrade, and so Barry Athletic required a win from their now final game against Penarth Town to clinch the championship.

Athletic dispatched Penarth 4-2 to take top spot.

The Premier Division has been a competitive and tight league in which on their day any team could beat another, and following a tremendous title race Barry Athletic are deserved champions.

In Division One, there was more discussion and debate as champions Sully Sports now await for the vote on whether clubs with first teams in the higher SWFA Alliance League can see their reserve teams be promoted to the top division of local league.

This is a rule that has denied teams like Sully and Cogan promotion to the Premier Division in recent years.

In the one remaining Division One game, Tynewydd finished their season strongly with a 1-0 win over Cogan.

In Division Two, it was a much more straight-forward affair with Llantwit Major continuing their complete domination of the division with a 10-0 win over Vale Madrid.

An incredible first season back in the Vale League for Llantwit, having won every league fixture, the Dockers Cup and finishing runners-up in the Barry Cup.

And so the 2017/18 season comes to an end, another exciting and entertaining season in the Vale.

Congratulations to Premier Division champions Barry Athletic, Barry Cup winners St Athan, ASRS Cup winners FC Barry Belgrade, Division One champions and Supporters Cup winners Sully Sports and Division Two champions and Dockers Cup winners Llantwit Major.

HD

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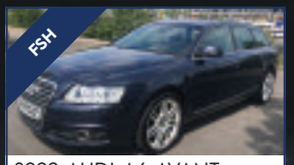

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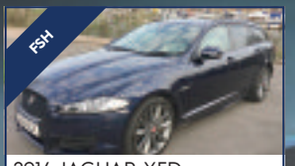

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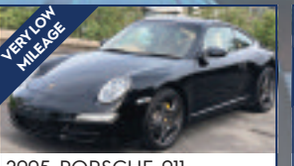

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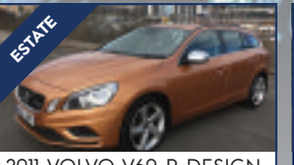

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15 15 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI S-Line 5dr, cruise, xenons, Bluetooth, met grey **£13795**

16 16 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI Sport 4dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, white **£13495**

13 62 BMW 118 D Sport Plus 2dr convertible, 18"alloys, heated seats, carbon black with full oyster beige leather **£11495**

14 64 BMW 118 2.0 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, 18"alloys, m sport pack, xenons, PDC, 29k, red **£11995**

15 65 BMW M135 3.0 l 3dr automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 18"alloys, 18k, choice, full leather **£18995**

15 15 BMW 216 D Luxury Active Tourer 5dr, Bluetooth, pdc, white with full leather **£12995**

14 14 BMW 220 D Sport 2dr coupe (190bhp) 18"alloys, bluetooth, privacy glass, black **£12995**

14 64 BMW 220 D M Sport 2dr (190bhp), sat nav, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, privacy glass, M rear spoiler, 38k,met blue, full leather....**£15495**

16 16 BMW M235 i 3.0 2dr convertible (322bhp), BMW warranty March 2019, sat nav, PDC, silver, full leather **£23995**

15 15 BMW 320 D ED Business Edition Estate, sat nav, met grey, full leather **£11995**

15 15 BMW 320 D BluePerformance M Sport 4dr (184bhp), privacy glass, bluetooth, cruise, white, full leather **£14995**

15 15 BMW 330 D M Sport 4dr automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, Bluetooth, 37k, estoril blue, full leather **£18995**

14 64 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, 19"alloys, sat nav, xenons, full leather, 36k, white, full leather **£19995**

15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr automatic (190bhp) M Sport+ pack, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, wide screen nav, choice, full leather....**£15995**

15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, M Sport+ Pack, pro sat nav, 19"alloys, 32k, estoril blue, full leather **£20995**

15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, BMW warranty Sep 2018, 19"alloys, head-up display, 25k, grey, full beige leather....**£22995**

15 64 BMW 520 DSE 4dr automatic (190bhp) sat nav, Bluetooth, grey, full leather **£12495**

16 16 BMW 520 DM Sport 4dr (190bhp) automatic, sat nav, choice, full leather **£17995**

15 65 BMW 640 D SE Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2018, electric glass sunroof, sat nav, DAB, 36k, silver, full leather....**£22995**

16 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, 19"alloys, 26k, carbon black, full leather....**£24995**

15 65 BMW 640 D M Sport 2dr coupe automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2018, 20"alloys, sat nav, Bluetooth, 15k, black, full leather....**£26495**

16 16 CITROEN C1 1.0 VTI Feel Airscape 5dr, electric roof, Bluetooth, 7k, white **£7495**

15 64 CITROEN C1 1.2 PureTech Flair Airscape 3dr, electric roof, Bluetooth, cruise, 17k, black **£6495**

15 15 CITROEN C1 1.0 VTI Feel 3dr, Bluetooth, aircon, USB, 11k, white....**£5495**

16 16 DS DS4 1.6 BlueHDI Crossback 5dr, Citroen warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, 19k, met red, half leather....**£10995**

16 65 DS DS5 1.6 BlueHDI Elegance 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, 18"alloys, pdc, met blue....**£10995**

16 16 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop Star 3dr, air-con, alloys, 18k, met grey.. ....**£6995**

16 16 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 T ecoBOOST Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty June 2019, 17"alloys, cruise,8k, white, half-leather **£10795**

15 65 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Zetec Red Edition 3dr, Ford warranty Oct 2018, 17"alloys, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 16k, red....**£9495**

16 16 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, met blue **£11495**

15 15 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI Titanium Estate, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, blue **£8995**

16 16 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr (Appearance Pack) Ford warranty April 2019, sat nav, cruise, DAB, 16k, blue, half leathe **£14995**

16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Vignale Estate, Ford warranty April 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, power tailgate, black, full leather....**£16495**

16 66 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, alloys, silver **£13795**

15 65 HYUNDAI TUSCON 1.7 CRDI Blue Drive SE Nav 5dr, sat nav, Hyundai warranty October 2020, Bluetooth, heated seats, 22k, choice **£12995**

14 64 JAGUAR XF 2.2 D Premium Luxury 4dr automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 32k, white, full leather **£16795**

17 17 JAGUAR XF 2.0 TD R-Sport 4dr automatic, Jaguar warranty July 2020, electric panoramic roof, sat nav, 19"black alloys, 11k, grey, full two tone leather **£24495**

15 15 KIA CEED 1.4 SR7 5dr, Kia warranty until Aug 2022, Bluetooth, PDC, 25k, white **£8295**

15 65 KIA PICANTO 1.2 CHILLI Eco Dynamics 3dr, Kia warranty Jan 2023, PDC, privacy glass, Bluetooth, USB, 15k, white, half leather **£7995**

14 14 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 2 5dr, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, 44k, silver, half leather **£10995**

15 15 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 1 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty March 2022, cruise, bluetooth, USB, 22k, white **£11995**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI Axis Edition 5dr, Kia warranty April 2023, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 18k, choice, full leather ..**£14495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 1 5dr (New Model) Kia warranty March 2023, Bluetooth, aircon, 19k, black....**£13495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 2 5dr (New Model) Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, side steps, 16k, silver **£15995**

15 15 MAZDA 6 2.2 TD SE-L 4dr automatic, cruise, Bluetooth, PDC, 18k, blue **£12995**

10 10 MAZDA MX-5 1.8 20TH Anniversary 2dr convertible, 17"alloys, air-con, 32k, met blue **£6995**

15 15 MAZDA MX-5 2.0 Sport 2dr convertible (New Model), Mazda warranty Sep 2018, 17"alloys, heated seats, 16k, black, full beige leather **£14995**

14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr 7G-DCT, cruise, Bluetooth, black....**£11995**

15 65 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Edition 5dr 7G-DCT automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, full leather, 25k, choice..**£14495**

16 16 MERCEDES A200d AMG Line 5dr, 18"alloys, reverse camera, 10k, half leather, choice auto or manual **£16495**

14 63 MERCEDES B200 CDI SE 5dr, sat nav, PDC, white **£9995**

12 12 MERCEDES C220 CDI AMG Sport 2dr automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, met grey, half-leather **£9995**

15 64 MERCEDES C220 CDI BlueTEC Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, full leather **£13995**

16 16 MERCEDES C220d AMG Line Premium 2dr 9G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty April 2019, panoramic roof, sat nav, 18"alloys, 19k, white, full leather....**£26995**

15 15 MERCEDES C250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr coupe 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 15k, silver, half leather....**£15995**

16 16 MERCEDES C250d AMG Line 2dr 9G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty June 2019, pan roof, sat nav, 18k, black, full leather....**£27995**

15 15 MERCEDES CLA220 CDI Sport 4dr 7G-DCT, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, cruise, 33k, grey, half leather **£16995**

15 65 MERCEDES CLA220 CDI AMG Sport 4dr 7G-DCT, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 18"alloys, 19k, red **£20495**

15 65 MERCEDES CLS220d AMG Line 4dr automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 19"alloys, xenons, 19k, black, full leather....**£21995**

16 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTec AMG Night Edition 4dr 7-G Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty March 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, choice, full leather **£18495**

16 16 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Editon 7G-Tronic plus Estate, Mercedes warranty April 2019, sat nav, DAB Bluetooth, choice, full leather....**£18995**

13 13 MERCEDES E250 CDI Blueefficiency Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic Automatic, heated seats, privacy glass, silver, full leather**£11995**

14 64 MERCEDES E250 CDI AMG Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic plus, panoramic roof, sat nav, 13k, silver, half leather/alcantara**£18995**

13 13 MERCEDES SLK250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr convertible automatic, 18"alloys, 34k, black, full leather **£13995**

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D COOPER 6dr, sat nav, chilli pack, 10k, white....**£13795**

17 17 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 Cooper S 6dr Estate automatic (JCW bodykit) chilli + media pack, sat nav, 5k, silver with full leather....**£19995**

15 65 MINI COOPER S 2.0 3dr (192bhp) (Chili & TLC pack) Mini warranty Jan 2019, Bluetooth, privacy glass, USB, 18k, deep blue, half leather **£12995**

14 64 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr Automatic (170bhp), cruise, Bluetooth, chilli pack, 17"alloys, 33k, grey with full leather **£11995**

15 15 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr (Chili & Media XL Pack) Mini warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, 19k, met blue, half-leather..**£10995**

16 66 MINI CONVERTIBLE 1.5 COOPER 2dr (Chili Pack) MINI warranty Sep 2019, heated seats, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 7k, blue, part leather....**£15495**

14 64 MINI COUPE 1.6 Cooper 2dr, chilli + TLC pack, 17"alloys, heated seats, 25k, white, half-leather....**£7995**

14 64 NISSAN 370Z 3.7 V6 Nismo 2dr Coupe (340bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, BOSE, 27k, black **£22995**

15 64 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 32k, yellow, full leather **£9495**

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 Tekna Xtronic 5dr CVT, Nissan warranty March 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 17k, grey, full leather....**£11995**

16 66 NISSAN PULSAR 1.5 DCI Acenta 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, alloys, red **£8995**

15 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-TEC 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, black **£11995**

16 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T Visia 5dr, Nissan warranty Feb 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, USB, 19k, red....**£10995**

16 16 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, 9k, met grey, full leather **£18995**

15 65 PEUGEOT 108 1.2 Pure Tech Allure 3dr, Bluetooth, reverse camera, alloys, 25k,black **£6295**

15 15 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 THP GTI 3dr (200bhp) Peugeot warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, pan roof, 12k, white, half leather.... ....**£10795**

16 16 PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 PureTech Access 5dr, Peugeot warranty May 2019, Bluetooth, aircon, 9k, grey **£8995**

15 15 PEUGEOT 2008 1.6 e-HDI CROSSWAY 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 17k, black **£9995**

12 62 PEUGEOT RCZ 1.6 THP Sport 2dr coupe, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 42k, grey **£7495**

14 64 PEUGEOT RCZ 2.0 HDI Sport 2dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 30k, black....**£9995**

16 16 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 2WD 5dr, Landrover warranty Aug 2019, lane assist, 18"alloys, privacy glass, 19k, white, full leather **£24995**

14 14 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Media Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, choice **£7995**

15 15 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique 5dr, Renault warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, 26k, white with black roof & mirror caps **£8495**

15 64 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI Energy GT-Line TomTom 3dr, sat nav, 17"alloys, 36k, blue **£8495**

11 11 MERCEDES E220 CDI Blueefficiency Sport 2dr Convertible, cruise, Bluetooth, parktronic, 18"alloys, white with full black leather **£12995**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, Nissan warranty April 2019, panoramic roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 23k, black **£14295**

17 17 VOLVO V60 2.0 D4 R-Design Nav Estate Geartronic, Volvo warranty April 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, grey, half leather **£17495**

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, Mini warranty Jan 2019, Bluetooth, DAB, USB, 24k, silver **£9795**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.0 ecoBOOST Zetec S 5dr automatic (150bhp), Ford warranty Oct 2019, DAB, Bluetooth, 10k, white **£11995**

17 17 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna XTRONIC 5dr automatic, Nissan warranty April 2020, sat nav, pan roof, 19"alloys, met red **£16995**

13 63 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI Zetec 5dr, Bluetooth, DAB, blue **£6495**

15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, 16k, choice, over 20 in stock **£5995**

14 14 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI Sport 5dr, aircon, Bluetooth, alloys, white **£8795**

17 17 FORD FIESTA 1.0 ecoBOOST ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty June 2020, Bluetooth, USB, 17"alloys, 11k, blue **£11495**

14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI ECO SE 5dr, Bluetooth, alloys, grey, half leather **£9795**

15 15 BMW 420 IM Sport Gran Coupe 5dr (184bhp), 19"alloys, widescreen sat nav, heated seats, 21k, in white with full black leather **£18995**

13 63 MERCEDES E220 CDI AMG Sport Cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, airscarf heating, MET BLUE, full leather **£16995**

14 64 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GT 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, privacy glass, 33k, urano grey **£12495**

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12 JAGUAR XF 2.2 diesel SE Auto metalic black, 40,000 miles, econimical luxury car at **£12,995**
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11 LAND ROVER Freelander 2 GS 2.2-ED4 In black, 43,000 mile **Diesel** at **£10,995**
60 AUDI TT 2.0 TDi Sport Quattro In met-blue, 83,000 mile sports coupe ..... **Reduced to £9,995**
65 NISSAN Juke 1.5 Diesel N-Connecta In magenta red, 31,000 miles, £20 road tax **£10,295**
15 MAZDA 6 SE Nav 2.2 Diesel In met-silver, 37,000 miles, £20 road tax **£9,995**
09 LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 SE 2.2 TD4 Auto in electric blue, 75,000 miles, high spec **£9,995**
02 JAGUAR XK8 4.0V8 Auto In Aspen green with cream leather, 80,000 miles, 20" alloys etc **£9,995**
63 HYUNDAI ix35 1.7 Diesel SE-Nav In white, 57,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty **£9,795**
64 VW Polo 1.2 TSI SE, 5Dr In metallic grey, 20,000 miles, one owner, £20 road tax **£9,695**
12 AUDI A1 Sport 1.4 TFSI, Automatic, 5Dr In silver, 70,000 miles, upgraded specification **£8,995**
16 FIAT 500 Lounge 1.2 In smooth mint green, 5,000 miles, glass roof, £20 road tax.....**£8,795**
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14 Honda Civic 1.6 Diesel, SE+, 5-Dr In silver 68,000 miles, free road tax **£7,995**
63 VW Polo 1.4 Match Edition In black, 22,000 miles, very nice example **£7,995**
62 HONDA Civic I-D Tec ES 2.2 Diesel. In urban titanium, 38,000 miles, £30 road tax **£7,995**
12 AUDI A3 SE 3-Dr 1.6 TDi In silver, 53,000 miles, £20 road tax **£7,995**
12 MINI Cooper Chilli 1.6 Diesel In red with white roof and mirrors, 27,000 miles **Reduced to £6,995**
64 FORD Focus 1.6 Diesel Titanium-Nav Estate In silver, 76,000 miles, £20 road tax **£7,995**
64 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 SE In met-blue, 29,000 miles, practical hatchback at **£7,495**
57 MERCEDES SLK 200K Auto 1.8cc In silver with red leather seats, only 79,000 miles, electric hardtop roof **£7,495**
66 MG3 Time VTi Tech 1.5cc 5-Dr Only 4,000 miles, manufacturer warranty..... **Reduced to £6,495**
64 RENAULT Clio Expression Plus 1.1. In silver, 28,000 miles, 1 owner, low insurance **£6,995**
14 ALFA ROMEO Mito, twin air, sportiva, 3Dr In metallic black, 45,000 miles, free road tax ..**£6,995**
14 Ford Fiesta 1.2 Zetec In 3 door, metallic blue, 25,000 miles, £30 road tax **£6,995**
63 KIA Rio 2 1.2 3-Dr In silver, only 11,000 miles from new **£6,995**
10 SEAT Leon 2.0 Diesel TDi FR 5-Dr In black, 48,000 miles, 2 owners, 170 bhp **£6,995**
61 MINI One 1.6 in red, 34,000 miles, very nice example at.....**£6,795**
13 VOLKSWAGEN High Up 1.0 5-Dr In white, 24,000 miles, £20 road tax, sat nav etc **£6,795**
64 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met grey, 44,000 miles, a/c, etc **£6,495**
12 SEAT Leon Copa 1.6 TDi SE 5-Dr In black, 49,000 miles, sat nav etc.....**£6,495**
61 FORD C-Max 1.6 Diesel TDCi Titanium In Denim Blue, 69,000 miles, high specification **£6,495**
11 FORD S-Max 2.0 Diesel TDCi Zetec 7-Seater Automatic In Spruce Green, 95,000 miles..**£6,495**
09 MINI Cooper S Convertible 1.6cc In midnight black, 52,000 miles, heated leather seats, bluetooth, stop/start.....**£6,295**
64 SKODA Fabia 1.2 SE 5-Dr In white, 33,000 miles, full Skoda history.....**£5,995**
63 FIAT 500S 1.2 in midnight indigo, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**
13 SUZUKI Splash SZ4 1.2 Automatic 5-Dr In silver, 44,000 miles **£5,995**
12 MAZDA 6 TS 1.8, 5Dr in clearwater blue, 45,000 miles, one owner **£5,995**
62 HYUNDAI IX20 Active 1.6 SRDI in steel grey, 67,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**
61 HYUNDAI IX35 Style 2WD 1.7 CRDI in silver, 52,000 miles, two owners **£5,995**
59 FORD Kuga 2.0 TDCi Titanium In black, top of the range **Diesel** at **£5,995**
07 MAZDA MX5 1.8 In silver, only 38,000 miles from new **£5,995**
61 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Titanium 5-Dr In grey, 53,000 miles, top of the range from **£5,695**
11 PEUGEOT 508 Active 1.6 HDi In Alpine Blue, 53,000 miles, large hatchback.....**£5,495**
56 MAZDA MX-5 Sport 2.0 CC In Black, 73,000 miles, hard top electric roof, heated leather seats..**£5,495**
61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.7 Diesel CDTi SRi 5-Dr In red, 55,000 miles.....**£5,495**
61 ALFA ROMEO Mito 1.4 Automatic Distinctive 3-Dr In etna black, 51,000 miles **£5,495**
61 RENAULT Scenic 1.5 diesel Dynamique TomTom In metallic sand gold, 52,000 miles **£5,495**
61 SEAT Ibiza SE Copa 1.4 3-Dr, silver, 41,000 miles, 1 owner **£5,295**
60 MAZDA 3TS 1.6 5-Dr In electric blue, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, very nice example at.....**£5,295**
11 VAUXHALL Corsa SE 1.4 5-Dr. In black, 51,000 miles, h/leather, heated seats, heated steering wheel **£5,295**
59 SKODA Octavia 1.4 TSi Elegance Auto. in met blue, only 51,000 miles **£5,495**
10 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Titanium 3-Dr In electric blue, 51,000 miles, bluetooth, £20 road tax **£4,995**
61 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Edge (60) 3-Dr In black, 25,000 miles, excellent throughout **£4,995**
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09 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Diesel TDCi Zetec 5-Dr In silver, 41,000 miles, £20 road tax **£4,475**
09 SEAT Ibiza Sport 1.4 5-Dr. In met. grey, only 42,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£4,495**
12 FORD Fiesta Edge 1.4 TDCi 3-Dr. In Colorado Red, 71,000 miles, £20 road tax.....**£4,295**
10 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Exclusive 5-Dr In met grey, 81,000 miles **£4,295**
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08 FORD Mondeo Ghia 2.0 TDCi (130) Auto 5-Dr In silver, 77,000 mile diesel.....**£3,795**
08 MAZDA 3 Takara 1.6, 5Dr In copper red, 48,000 miles, two owners **£3,695**
09 Citroen C1, VTR, 5-Dr In electric blue, 37,000 miles, low insurance **£3,695**

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Silver with red leather seats, only 79,000 miles, electric hard top
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In pearl white, only 14,000 miles and 1 owner
£8,495

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In smooth mint green, 5,000 miles, glass roof, £20 road tax
£8,795

64 HONDA Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC WEx
In electric blue, 35,000 miles, pan roof etc.
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62 HONDA Civic I-D Tec ES 2.2 Diesel
In urban titanium, 38,000 miles, £30 road tax
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Black belts for JSTKD students

JSTKD Martial Arts & Fitness celebrated the success of four students at the recent black belt grading examinations held in the Bristol.

Xantia Hobrough, Zac Hayvice and Morgan Lloyd Williams travelled to the TAGB (Tae Kwon Do Association of GB) headquarters where they were put through their paces by a panel of senior examiners.

Their extra lessons and hard work perfecting their skills paid dividends as all three were rewarded with their new belts.

In addition, Rhys Doel became JSTKD's youngest 2nd Dan as he kept his composure throughout his grading too.

This is a great achievement for Rhys who is now a year 10 student but gained his 1st Dan belt when he was still in primary school.

He has shown great dedication with his training as not only is he a team captain for JSTKD's tournament team but he has worked his way through three 'Black Belt Star' gradings on his way to his new belt.

'Stars' are special examinations for junior Black Belts who must wait for a longer period of time to adults before they can progress to 2nd Dan level.

Anyone wishing to start their own Tae Kwon Do journey with JSTKD should visit their website at www.jsktd.co.uk.

There is a free taster lesson for all new students.

VW

Llantwit Major leave it late to secure win

WHAT a tense game for the Llantwit Major AFC supporters to endure from the side, as a goal from Sean Williams in the 88th minute enabled Llantwit to gain another three points and move them to the top of the table and in a very strong position to achieve promotion to Division One.

As usual Llantwit made a bright start and only five minutes into the game, Nathan Jones who was playing in the uncustomary role of right back, rattled the side of the net with a shot from 25 yards out.

However, Pontardawe soon hit back when two minutes later they tested Jack Lansdown in the Llantwit goal when he had to make a fine save to block a shot from their striker from eight yards out.

Llantwit kept on applying the pressure and a golden opportunity to open the scoring in the 13th minute was missed by Jonathan Fletcher when a fine cross whipped in by Nathan Jones found him unmarked at the far post, but he headed wide from a few yards out.

Pontardawe were playing their part in making it an entertaining game for the neutral supporter and Jack Lansdown was again called upon to make a fine save in the 30th minute from their striker's header from a corner kick.

Half-time arrived in a very tense affair with the score 0-0.

The second half started with Pontardawe going close with their first attack when they created an early chance, but their shot went just over the bar.

Llantwit immediately responded and both Sam Snaith and Anthony Rawlings went close with shots that just went wide.

Llantwit missed another great chance to open the scoring when a free kick taken by Nathan Jones was crossed into the goal area and found Anthony Rawlings unmarked but his header, like Fletcher's earlier, went wide of the goal.

It was getting very tense watching from the side as another chance fell to Sam Snaith, when a fine run into the goal area by Connor Goldsworthy led him to pass to Sam who, from 10 yards out, saw his shot just go wide of the far post with the keeper beaten.

It seemed the goal was never going to come as the Pontardawe goalkeeper made a tremendous save from Ben Cripps when it looked like his shot was going into the back of the net.

Finally, the deadlock was broken when, from a corner kick taken by Connor Goldsworthy, Sean Williams was left unmarked in the centre of the goals and headed home from six yards out to score a vital goal.

However, in the celebrations that followed, Jonathan Butler was shown a second yellow card by the referee for over-enthusiasm!

Llantwit now had to face the last five minutes, plus nearly another seven minutes of injury time, with 10 men.

Despite a few scares at the end which saw Jack Lansdown again make a fine save when he tipped a shot over the bar, Llantwit managed to hold on to secure a vital win.

DJ

Connor celebrates 18th win of season

BRIDGEND'S Connor Brace chalked-up his 18th winner of the season when winning the novice riders' race at the Cothelstone Point-To-Point Steeplechases last Wednesday (May 16) – and he is now a remarkable 10 wins ahead of his nearest challenger in the national novice riders' championship.

Riding his grandfather David Brace's *Robin Des People*, he finished ahead of his great pal Jack Tudor, of Merthyr Mawr, who was on *Repeat Business*.

David Brace OBE, of the Dunraven Stud at Pyle near Bridgend, has saddled 20 winners this season and at the time of writing is nine wins ahead of his nearest rival in the race to become National Leading Owner.

His horse *William Money* also leads the field in the National Champion Horse competition, having won six times this season.

There are three other horses challenging who have five wins.

Mr Brace's *Pink Eyed Pedro* leads the way in the Point-To-Point Owners and Riders Young Horse Award.

Another Welsh rider who was in good form at Cothelstone was David Prichard, who landed the young horse maiden race on his father Ian's *Limoncello*.

David made it a double when scoring on *Massini's Blade* in the first division of the open maiden and he has now ridden 11 winners this season.

BRIAN LEE

BARRY RFC LOTTERY NEWS

THE Barry RFC mega lottery numbers for last Saturday were 03, 11, 14 and 18.

There was no overall winner, but four tickets win the £10 consolation prize.

AJ

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest? Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Strong start to season continues for Vale seconds

ON a glorious warm day, Vale Second XI skipper Matthew Thomas had no hesitation in asking his strong batting line-up to make first use of the Machen wicket, having won the toss.

The skipper and newly promoted opener Steve Hiles set about producing a fine opening stand of 80.

Thomas was severe square of the wicket producing some fine cuts and Hiles showed all his class with an array of shots all around the wicket.

After a slog sweep for 6 off veteran spinner Robin Jones it was the spinner who had the last laugh in breaking the opening stand as Thomas was caught at short mid on for an powerfully-made 44.

Mark Francis joined Hiles for a partnership of 47 before being caught and bowled by the same bowler for 20.

Gareth Kelland joined Hiles and these two produced a magnificent partnership of 130 through some powerful hitting and excellent running between the wickets.

Hiles made full use of his opportunity to open by completing a wonderful maiden century for the club and, aside from a very risky single to extra cover, it was a chanceless innings.

Hiles finally departed in the pursuit of quick runs being stumped for 126, an innings which had included 19 boundaries.

At the other end Gareth Kelland, given his first opportunity at four, batted which great maturity, mixing his natural aggressive game with knocking the ball around in the gaps and taking singles to build his score.

Kelland completed an excellent half century and finished the innings 67 not out.

Vale finished 275-3 off their 40 overs another powerful batting total with Robin Jones the best of the Machen bowlers taking 2-48.

Machen set off positively in their pursuit of Vale's total scoring 36 off the first five overs despite Greg Andrews producing an impressive opening spell of bowling.

This partnership was not broken until the 12th over as the ever-enthusiastic Andrews celebrated with a lion's roar as he knocked over the stumps of Nigel Hicks for 23 with Machen's total on 71.

This was to be Andrews' last over but he had completed an impressive spell of 1-11 off his 6 overs.

This bowling change was about to bring a remarkable transformation to the game as Tom Lazarus' slow bowling was introduced into the attack in the 14th over.

His first over produced a remarkable quadruple wicket maiden which included a hat-trick. Clive Fussell was cleaned bowled first ball, Robin Jones bowled fourth ball, Barrie Burnett caught by Matthew Thomas' fifth ball and the hat-trick completed on the last ball of the over as H Owen was clean bowled.

Lazarus continued to torment the Machen batsmen and finished with remarkable figures of 8-3-23-7.

Despite not getting wickets, both young 12-year-old Aaron Davies and slightly older Richard Cole both bowled good spells.

However, conscious of missing out on maximum bowling points the previous week, the captain turned to his vice-captain Mark Francis to give him his first bowl of the season and he duly obliged, taking the last two wickets.

The first was with a gloriously bowled (and Waqar Younis-like) inswinging Yorker; Francis then finished the match, with Ashley Taylor taking a catch behind off an inside edge leaving Francis with figures of 2-12.

Vale recorded a comprehensive 121-run maximum point victory which maintained their unbeaten start to the season.

This was another hugely impressive performance from Vale Seconds who look a real force in the division.

They meet the only other unbeaten side in the division, Pontymister and Cross Keys, at Corntown this week in a top of the table clash.

HW

SUN SHINES ON LLANTWIT MAJOR TENNIS CLUB!

ALL PICTURES BY HOLLIE HOWELS.

IT was only two years ago that Llantwit Major Tennis Club was re-instated and the club recently celebrated the Great British Tennis Weekend and their open day with the courts packed with children and adults enjoying tennis in the sun.

An outstanding day was had by all. The sun shone down and members of our community turned up in droves to try out tennis free and to get to know our local tennis club.

The afternoon began with a fantastic number of children signing up to join in the afternoon's sessions of activities, ball games and mini tennis, so much so, an extra session was added to the day.

It was tremendous to see so many children getting involved and having such a lot of fun on court.

Later on in the afternoon, it was the turn of the adults, some playing for the first time ever, and others picking up a tennis racquet for the first time in many years.

With club membership discounted especially for the open day, the club was absolutely delighted to sign up lots of new adults and children to the annual membership.

Coaching sessions were especially popular among the children and the club is looking forward to seeing everyone on court in the new cycle of coaching starting on June 4.

The club would like to thank everyone who turned out to try tennis and everyone who gave up their valuable time to help out at the event, on our food stall, signing people into the event, offering information and helping on court.

If you'd like to try tennis or play more, social tennis runs every Saturday at 2pm.

All levels of player are welcome to join in from beginners to wannabe Federers – it's a mix-in session so you are guaranteed a game!

If you would like information about Llantwit Major Tennis Club membership, coaching or social calendar go to our website llantwittennis.co.uk, or find us on Facebook.

VS

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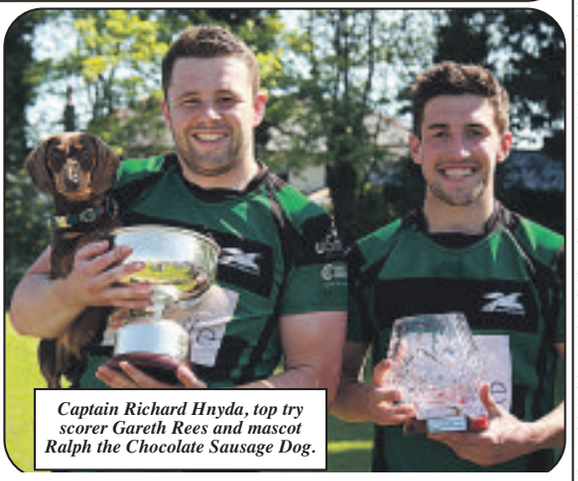
Champions Porthcawl canter to 80-0 victory

ALL PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLIAMS.

Jobe Owens races clear.



Captain Richard Hnyda, top try scorer Gareth Rees and mascot Ralph the Chocolate Sausage Dog.

PORTHCAWL RFC's momentous season drew to a close on Saturday with a comprehensive victory over a spirited and committed Pontycymmer side, on a day when the weather matched the occasion of the Seaweeds being crowned league champions by WRU board member Alan Jones.

The visitors have struggled this season but they should be proud of their efforts and all at Porthcawl would wish to see a strong and successful Pontycymmer side once more next season.

Jordan Skidmore got the Seaweeds on the scoreboard with a smart try after just two minutes for 5-0 and despite the visitors' lively response, there followed an unfortunate incident after eight minutes where visiting forward Owen Whittingham took a very heavy knock that saw him laid prostrate on the turf, a pure accident which held up the match for some time while he received medical attention, necessitating a call for an ambulance as precautionary measure.

Following discussion with the referee, both teams agreed to continue the match on the adjoining pitch and, fortunately, Owen was later able to recover from his injury, the best news on the day, and all at Porthcawl RFC wish him well.

With the match resumed, No.8 Jobe Owens notched his first try of the day with a surging break for 10-0, the first of his hat-trick, and a super all-round performance.

He was quickly followed to the try-line by left wing Jake Thomas who flew over following great hands from scrum-half Morgan Haylock, centre Gareth Rees and outside half Ben Thomas, whose fine conversion from near touch, one of his 10 for the match, brought the score to 17-0.

The Seaweeds play was all-out total rugby and they added a further 21 points before the break, with tries by Gareth Rees, Jake Thomas for his brace and Ben Thomas, who converted all three, his own right from the touchline for 38-0.

In the second half, and with the home pack enjoying much the better of it, Owens nabbed his second try, converted by Thomas just after the break, before Owens again surged through midfield to find Ben Thomas, whose magical flip out of the back of the hand saw Haylock grab the pass and score the try, improved by Thomas for 52-0.

Owens was in a purple patch now and it was no surprise when he took a quick tap penalty and flew through the defence to cross at the posts, with Thomas converting for 59-0, with 35 minutes still to play.

Gareth Rees kicked through for Jordan Fox to gather and score for Thomas to goal and 66-0 before Sean Wilcox waltzed through for his try, again bettered by Thomas at 73 points, with the match now a procession to the try-line.

With the next score, a second try for Fox and conversion by Thomas for 80-0, the referee and players all decided that all was said and done and the final whistle sounded, allowing the presentation of the league trophy to be made to Porthcawl, warmly applauded by the Pontycymmer side and supporters alike and a great day for the Seaweeds' home faithful.

Aside of the experienced players who have contributed so much to a played 22, won 21 season record, Porthcawl were pleased to have given some vital senior team experience to Euan Manley, Will Lampard and Jack Palmer in this match, and that will stand them in good stead for next season alongside their older team-mates, with Division Two West Central the next destination. **PF**

Morgan Clemett scores for the Athletic. ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANNON.

Athletic youth fall just short in championship final

BATHED in glorious evening sunshine before a sizeable crowd, Bridgend Athletic youth, Ospreys A League champions looked to defend their National League title against Blues regional champions Pontypridd at Rodney Parade.

The physical size of the Pontypridd 8 took its toll on the Athletic in the second half and although the Bridgend side matched Ponty with two tries apiece, they conceded a raft of penalties, gratefully received by Ponty captain and centre Rhodri Smith.

Smith's match haul of 19 points from five penalties and two conversions proved too much for the Athletic and a half-time 6-5 deficit turned into a Ponty 29-12 full-time victory.

Smith missed an early penalty but kicked his side ahead after seven minutes when the Athletic were penalised for not releasing at the ruck.

From the restart, the Athletic were awarded a kickable penalty but elected for full back Levi Hallett to kick to the corner.

Fortune favoured the brave. Lock Jac Bassett won the throw in and the far lighter Athletic 8 showing good technique driving low pushed the heavier Ponty 8 backwards for prop Morgan Clemett to peel away and dive low over the try line. This gave the Athletic a 5-3 lead.

Attempting to run out of their 22 an Athletic player became isolated and was penalised for holding on. Smith restored Pont's lead with his second penalty.

Full back Hallett was hurt in a tackle and was replaced in the 15th minute by Cameron Lewis.

The rest of the half was keenly contested, but the game swung in the five minute periods before and after half-time.

Athletic outside half Morgan Roberts grubber kicked behind the Ponty defence on halfway regathered and excellent inter passing between him and centre Caine Woolerton saw Woolerton race 25 metres to get over the try line with a tackler holding on to him.

The referee adjudged Woolerton had been held up and failed to ground the ball, so the game remained 6-5 in favour of Ponty at half-time.

From the restart Ponty came hard at the Athletic and within two minutes lively scrum half Carl Blacker broke from ruck 20 metres out to race under the posts.

Before the Athletic could regain their composure, a flowing back move saw centre Ioan Evans cross for Ponty's second try.

Smith's two conversions put his side in the driving seat with a 20-5 advantage, which he quickly increased to 23-5 with his third penalty of the match.

To the Athletic's credit they did not crumble as Ponty turned the screw. Outside half Morgan Roberts sent a long clearance upfield behind the Ponty defence.

No 8 Will Barraclough went in pursuit and was on hand when the defence fumbled the ball to pick up and run in for his 20th try of the season.

Scrum half Matthew Hobby converted to renew hope with the travelling Athletic support at 23-12.

However, the Ponty pack were relentless. Having failed to pick off the Athletic wide out where centres Joe Patterson, Caine Woolerton and wings Sam Palmer and Nathan Willis defended well, Ponty looked to grind down the Athletic with their heavier pack.

The Athletic front row of Clemett, Tom Zielinski and Chris Crumpton and replacements Callum Swinford and Jack Obbard refused to buckle in the set scrum, while Tom Davies, Jac Bassett and Owain Leyshon were competitive against taller and heavier opponents in the line-out, stealing some vital throws.

The back row of Davies, Barraclough and captain Joe Grabham were playing well, but on the day the Ponty back row of Welsh youth flanker Callun James, Dafydd Smith and Dewi Thomas played better as a unit, especially at the breakdown.

The Athletic gave the remainder of their young bench Danny Osirigie, Sean Vigus, Josh Tidy and Kasari Mehta a taste of cup final action.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

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